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Volume XIX Number 19

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

May 9, 1996

Pro-Power Plant Group Demands Hearing... Mayor's Tax Pact With Utility Scrapped By Town Council

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

In a move that took even power plant opponents by surprise, Town Council dropped consideration of the payment in-lieu-of-taxes plan negotiated by the Mayor and Berkshire Power from its agenda.

Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA) spokesman Ken Forni said he was watching the meeting from home and expected the item would go onto the council's next agenda on May 20th.

But, in the final moments of the Monday, May 6th meeting, Councilor Thomas Ennis proposed taking the item off the agenda as long as there is a court case pending in the wake of the Zoning Board of Appeals refusal to grant a permit for the project.

"This is a moot point," Ennis said. "The ZBA has said they can't build the power plant, and I don't think we have any business dealing with this while it's still in the courts."

Councilors Gary Suffriti, Dennis Perry, Joseph Langone, David Skolnick, and Edward Caba joined Ennis in voting to toss the item out. Voting against were Council President Nancy Thompson,

Kent Servis, and Christian Quatrone. Council Vice-President Jill Simpson abstained, and Councilor George Bitzas was absent.

Outraged at the council's refusal to even consider the plan, power plant supporters immediately mobilized to overturn the council's action by petitioning for a public hearing and a vote on the issue by June 3rd.

Concerned Agawam Taxpayers (CAT) spokeswoman Vivian Dziardziel said she would submit the petition to the city clerk on Thursday, May 9th.

"We're not going down without a fight," Mrs. Dziardziel said. "They're not going to screw the town out of millions of dollars if I have anything to say about it."

Mrs. Dziardziel said the council must abide by the terms of a citizens' petition.

SEE POWER PLANT - Page 2...

Council President Facing Ouster From 6 Colleagues

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Before the month is over, the Town Council may have a new president.

Seeking a change in the council's leadership, six councilors have called a special meeting for Friday, May 10th, at 7:00 p.m., to discuss dismissing Nancy Thompson as their president. The six councilors are Gary Suffriti, Thomas Ennis, Edward Caba, Joseph Langone, Dennis Perry, and Kent Servis.

The meeting will be chaired by council Vice-President Jill Simpson. She will be taking over for Ms. Thompson, who is serving as acting mayor while Mayor Christopher C. Johnson is on vacation.

It is expected that no business will be conducted at the meeting, as the item will be appearing on the council's agenda for the first time. New business does not come up for a vote or discussion until the council's next meeting, which will be on May 20th.

Suffriti said there has been much controversy over rules and procedures not being followed by the council president. A recent ruling by Ms. Thompson to cancel a public hearing after she consulted with Town Attorney Thomas Locke without the knowledge or consent of the council, was the "straw that broke the camel's back," Suffriti said.

Ms. Thompson defended her action in canceling the public hearing requested by Valentine Moreno and 59 voters for "the purpose of determining if the misuse of public funds has been allowed by the council and administration."

"I was right and correct to ask the town attorney to look over this petition," Ms. Thompson said. "I had some concerns that these are criminal allegations, and it is not in our purview to investigate crimes."

In his opinion sent to the Council, Town Counsel Thomas Locke said, "I do not believe that the Agawam Town Council should involve itself in the discussion of or investigation of alleged criminal misconduct. I believe that allegations of criminal misconduct should be investigated by the appropriate law enforcement agency."

"Potential Liability For Defamation..."

According to Locke, Town Council could subject the town and the council members as individuals to potential liability for defamation, slander, and/or libel by participating in the discussion and investigation of alleged criminal misconduct by falsely accusing someone of committing a crime.

Suffriti disagreed with Locke's opinion and with the decision to cancel the public hearing.

"We have to have a public hearing when the people petition for it. It doesn't mean we agree with what they say. It's the people's right to be heard. And if we learned anything from the last election, we learned the people sent a message: 'Don't mess with our rights,'" Suffriti said.

Suffriti said it gave him no pleasure to ask the council president to resign or be dismissed, but it was time for new leadership. "We need somebody who is going to work for the whole council and that hasn't been happening," Suffriti said.

SEE OUSTER - Page 2...

It's Time To Make The Pizza...!!!



JIM PLANZO OF AGAWAM, owner of Luigi's Pizza on the South End Bridge Circle, recently paid a visit to the town's Early Childhood Center at Perry Lane Park to show the youngsters one of the tricks of his trade - making a pizza. Here, Jim is assisted by his son, Nicholas. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

OUSTER - from Page 1...

Although she expects to be voted out of the chair, Ms. Thompson said, "I will not step down. It's not in the best interest of the town."

Ms. Thompson said she was overwhelmed with the support of people calling to say they are appalled at what some councilors are trying to do and at their behavior at council meetings.

"There are more important things we should be doing," Ms. Thompson said. "I will continue to be the same issues-oriented councilor I have always been."

Councilor Kent Servis said his decision to join in the move to dismiss the council president was a painful thing to do, but new leadership is needed for the council.

Although he agreed that the behavior of some councilors and some audience members has contributed to an atmosphere of rudeness and defiance of the chair's authority," Servis said, "A large measure of the fault has to be laid at her (Ms. Thompson's) feet. We've had some hot issues, but business is not moving forward as it should."

"The councilors should take responsibility for their rude, disruptive behavior," Ms. Thompson said. "I am not their mother."

Councilor George Bitzas said he was not consulted by the six councilors who are calling for Ms. Thompson's removal. Bitzas said he would not have joined in the request if he had been asked, and that dismissing a council president should be a last resort.

"The councilors should work with the president and not confront her," Bitzas said. "We should have respect and understanding for each other."

Bitzas agreed with Ms. Thompson's decision to cancel the public hearing after getting a legal opinion from Locke. "This is not a valid reason to dismiss her. She obeyed the advice of the town's legal office to protect the council and the councilors."

Charging that the drive to remove her from the council presidency is driven by anti-Johnson sentiment, Ms. Thompson said, "There are larger issues here than Nancy Thompson and a public hearing. This is the old boys' network practicing battlefield politics."

POWER PLANT - from Page 1...

Last week, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson sent each councilor a 60-page booklet detailing the terms of a revised payment in-lieu-of-taxes agreement before presenting the plan at a CAT meeting.

Berkshire Power Raises Original Offer...

In order to meet their development schedule, Berkshire Power is upping their original offer to \$1.1 million per year, escalating at three percent per year and an additional \$100,000 in the fifth year of the plant's operation if the council approves the plan by June 3rd.

BP Director of Development Ken Roberts said the company's offer still stands. But, if the council rejects the proposal or takes no action, the company will have no option but to obtain manufacturer's status and pay at most \$285,000 per year in taxes.

"Certain councilors have linked the in-lieu-of-tax decision to our appeal of the Zoning Board's minority decision, but these are entirely separate issues," Roberts said.

"In reality, it would seem more prudent for the town to obtain a signed agreement binding Berkshire Power to pay more money before this issue is resolved in court or through a Siting Board override," Roberts added.

Forni said he would have been shocked if the council has wasted its time discussing a tax agreement with Berkshire Power until the power plant gets the necessary permits.

"They're trying to force the council's hand for their timetable," Forni said. "It was an insult to every resident in town to offer more money only if the council would vote by June 3rd."

BP spokesman Kevin O'Reilly said the June 3rd date was chosen so that the council could have enough time to consider the contract and send it to the legislature before the legislative session ends in July. The next legislative session begins in January 1997.

Payment in-lieu-of-tax agreements must be approved by Town Council and enacted into state law by the legislature.

Ag. Council On Aging Develops Program On Senior Citizen Safety

The Agawam Council on Aging, in conjunction with other area groups, has developed a program to assist in the safe return of seniors to their homes, should they become lost or confused.

Elders suffering from some sort of dementia often wander, and at times cannot remember their own name, telephone number, or address. Approximately 12 such cases were reported by the Agawam Police Department last year, and as the number of senior citizens increases, that number is expected to rise as well.

The Council on Aging facilitated meetings between the Agawam Police Department, the Housing Authority, Genesis Nursing Facilities, and Country Estates regarding the problem of seniors wandering and becoming lost or confused, and out of these meetings came the proposal for the Care Alert Photo Identification program.

Seniors will be photographed at the Senior Center and an information sheet will be completed. This information will be maintained in a file at the Police Station, and will be referred to in the event that the Police find an elder who is unable to remember their name, address, or telephone number.

This program will save innumerable hours of police work devoted to such cases and provide peace of mind for family members knowing that they will be notified, and their loved ones will be returned home safely, should they wander away from home.

Registration for the program will begin on Thursday, May 23rd, at 11:00 a.m. and will continue on an ongoing basis. Registration is free, and we encourage all concerned seniors and their families to take part in this community effort to ensure the safety of Agawam seniors.

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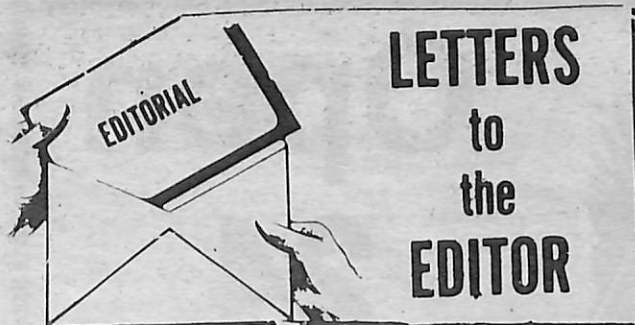
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School Committee Makes Big Mistake On Kindergarten

To The Editor:

As a parent hoping to have my child selected into the integrated, full-day kindergarten program this coming fall, I am angered by the School Committee's recent decision to favor the children of working parents over those who remain at home.

Having had a chance to view the full-day class on many occasions, I found it to be a wonderful program. For this reason only, I entered my daughter into the lottery. I am not only angered, but also disappointed that my daughter will not be given an equal opportunity for selection into this program.

Mrs. Sandlin, I empathize with the situation of working parents, as I am sure it is difficult to make arrangements around a half-day program. I am also sure that most anyone would be willing to accommodate a single parent who is struggling to give his/her children the best. However, not all parents are "called to the workplace" as Mr. Ryder states. Many are there to maintain a lifestyle, or, more simply, because they want to work. To say that their children are more entitled to ANYTHING than the children who have a parent at home is truly unjust.

Committee members, when you were making your decision, did you consider that not all at-home parents are non-working? I have foregone my own career and have secured a job in the evening so that I could stay at home with my children. Did you consider the parents who were looking forward to returning to the workforce had their children been selected to this program? How presumptuous of you to assume that these parents would be willing to just wait another year.

Our public education system is not designed for the convenience of parents; if it were, it would run 12 months a year. It is designed to give EVERY student an EQUAL AND FAIR OPPORTUNITY to an education. Discrimination is not simply racial, sexual, or religious. It is defined as "making a distinction for the benefit of a group or individual." Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Sandlin, Mr. Massoia, Mrs. Galarneau: this is exactly what you have done.

YOU ARE DISCRIMINATING AND YOU ARE WRONG.

Sincerely,
Lynne M. Geiger
Agawam

Local Bidder For Bus Pact Addresses Many Issues

To The Editor:

My name is Robert King. I'm a resident and taxpayer who resides at 18 Begley Street in Agawam. I'm also a retired Agawam police officer. Being from Agawam, I'm also very concerned about the school transportation bid and how it could affect the future of transporting our students.

There used to be a time when nobody worried

about school transportation because it was provided by DePalma Bus Co. (owned by a family from town). Over the years, the cooperation between the DePalma company and the School Department was always 100 percent.

That time could be brought back to the Town of Agawam. I own Terrien Transportation, Inc., d/b/a King Ward Coach Lines. Over the past eight years, I have built a reputation for providing excellent service, personal attention to the details, and cooperating with school departments.

I'm currently doing the extra field trips and athletics for Agawam and have shown the local principals and the Athletic Director what we are capable of doing.

I have in the past provided transportation to Agawam special needs students from 1988 to 1991, often going above and beyond the limits of the contract; providing transportation for injured students and athletes at no extra charge, just to help out the Town of Agawam.

I would also like to explain a couple of reasons I believe caused me not to be the lowest bidder.

(1) The minimum wage for drivers doing this upcoming contract was lowered to \$8.20 per hour. This is going to cause a lot of problems in the future because other cities and towns are several dollars higher.

If a large company is holding several contracts at different wage levels, it only stands to reason that the drivers being assigned to Agawam will be new drivers or less experienced. My figure in the bid was trying to keep the current drivers at their current rate of pay for better continuity.

(2) The second reason was the insurance requirements being raised from \$1 million per person/\$3 million per accident to \$3 million per person and \$10 million per accident. This requirement allows the big conglomerate companies who are self-insured to force out the little home-management companies to compete.

The insurance requirements cost the contractor who is not self-insured \$28 per day, per vehicle. I understand the reasoning behind the town's thinking about being covered, but talking with insurance companies—this is a little overkill.

I apologize for the length of this letter, but I feel it is very important to address issues within the bid. The old saying about getting what you pay for is very important.

I'm a town resident who is very proud of the town and enjoys doing things to make people happy. I believe I'm known by a great number of town residents, and they all could vouch for this.

Any questions I can answer or advice I can give, I will be happy to do so.

Thank you & sincerely,
Robert King
Terrien Transportation, Inc.
d/b/a King Ward Coach Lines

What Are The Issues Of The Council Pres. Controversy?

To The Editor:

We fail to understand the underlying issues raised by several self-righteous councilors surrounding the dismissal of Agawam Town Council President Nancy Thompson.

To us it is clear that this is not a case of incompetence. What then is the issue? The answer probably lies in the fact that the Council President is an educated, intelligent, articulate, law-abiding, and highly ethical woman, and the old boys' network cannot stand it.

We have had an occasion to watch the televised council meetings. It is appalling to have our city councilors conduct themselves in a very unprofessional manner. Failing to show up for meetings, walking out on meetings, and rudeness should be cause for dismissal of councilors.

Instead of working side by side with the Mayor to resolve real issues, these councilors have once again demonstrated the unworthiness of their positions. For Agawam to remain a prosperous and livable city, it is urgent that the voters recognize the councilors who operate with the best interest of the city at heart and those that do not.

It is time for discussion and cooperation rather than confrontation. Stop wasting time and energy on nonsense and start focusing on the long-term needs of this community.

If you can't do that, then resign. Agawam does not deserve to be the laughingstock of the business and political arena.

Susan M. Plourde, DMD
Sadru Kabani, DMD
Agawam

Angry About Decision On Kindergarten Program

To The Editor:

I am writing in regard to the decision made by the School Committee to give preference to the full-day kindergarten to families in which both parents work.

Since this is a public kindergarten, I am surprised that this policy is legal, but in any case, I find it extraordinarily discriminatory and biased. The idea that dual working parents need to be rewarded or assisted by being able to obtain free full-day child care ahead of others assumes that they are in some way more needy than other families or more worthy in some way.

There is a vast leap being made here that assumes a family has two working parents because that is the only way they can make it economically and therefore needs the assistance of the public school system to provide free child care while parents with only one working parent must have less need and the non-working parent must be free to care for the child. This is not necessarily the case and the facts of any particular situation might reveal a very different situation.

Two parents may be working because they feel their needs cannot be met with one income.

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Sunday, May 12th
American Legion Baseball Tryouts
(Ages 15-18) At Shea's Field
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
(Rain Date: Sunday, May 19th)

Monday, May 13th
Agawam Cultural Council meeting
At Agawam Police Station
7:00 p.m.
For more information, call 789-0994

Tuesday, May 14th
Agawam Garden Club meeting
Captain Leonard House, Main St.
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Saturday, May 18th
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LETTERS - from Page 4...

However, what one family feels are its needs are another's luxuries. Offering a family with a very comfortable income free all-day child care lacks logic and reason. Technically, Agawam could be offering families with six figure incomes free child care while it turns down families of one working parent who may earn close to the poverty level.

An at-home parent—notice I didn't say non-working parent—could be at home for any number of reasons. Often, a decision to keep one parent in the home to be the primary caregiver comes from a commitment to provide children with the best possible beginning in a loving and nurturing environment. This decision is often made with great financial sacrifice. Perhaps a mother, or father, is at home caring for younger siblings or helping to care for elderly parents. We have no right to decide which family is the more worthy for full-day kindergarten. I believe Mrs. Kozloski was absolutely correct when she stated we have no right to judge other people's lifestyles.

I feel the Agawam School Committee needs to reevaluate what its real goals are in providing an all-day kindergarten. If it is for the benefit of the children and it wishes to assist children who may not be able to afford this benefit privately, then it needs to look at family income, not whether or not both parents are working. If it is to help working parents only, I think the town should reconsider its financial commitment to a full-day kindergarten. I know I am not ready to pay for child care for those families who could well afford to pay for it themselves.

Sincerely,
Petra Gervais
Feeding Hills

Agawam School Committee Should Reconsider Its Decision

To The Editor:

I agree with Shelly Goncalves' recent letter to the editor. Why should the children of stay-at-home moms be overlooked by this town?

My children should receive the same as any other child in this town, regardless of the status of the parents' working conditions. I, too, am appalled at this select School Committee for their decision; I pay my taxes in this town just like many others.

I do stay at home during the day to care for my children, but I do work at night doing party planning and per diem in a nursing facility, so therefore, I do consider myself a working parent.

I did work full-time with my first child and I had to make my arrangements for someone to get him on and off the bus, so it can be done. Why should my taxes go and pay for what I would say is daycare for working parents?

And to top it all off, "How stupid can this get?" You only allotted for 17 openings. Gee, I wonder whose children will get in?

I have lived in this town for 31 years and also attended this school system, and I just can't believe this School Committee could act in such a manner.

I thought we were all for the children, but I guess not. I am so embarrassed and disappointed, for I voted for these select School Committee members; I will think twice next time when I go to vote.

I also would like to thank Teresa Kozloski and Roberta Doering for standing up for the other children. If you can't do for all, then you should do for many.

Sincerely,
Lynn Robinson
Feeding Hills

It's Time For Agawam Voters To Wake Up And Speak Up

To The Editor:

Voters of Agawam—WAKE UP! It is time for all you "silent" citizens to come out of the woodwork and speak up.

To date, the old political machine's cliques and rabble-rousers have made Agawam the laughing stock of all the local communities. I'm sure the majority of Agawam's "silent" citizens wholeheartedly disagree with all of their shenanigans.

"SILENT" VOTERS, MAKE YOURSELVES HEARD NOW! Send in your opinions of the present "goings-on" to the media, the instigators of all this brouhaha, and call or write the dead wood presently in office and tell them either to wake up, change their ways, and work together and not against each other for the betterment of Agawam (as this is what they have been elected to do), or else they will be voted out in the next election ... and then follow through!

As for the present situation, we finally have a council president who properly presides over the

council meetings. She follows parliamentary procedures to a "T," does her homework regarding agenda issues, and seeks legal counsel wherever and whenever it is necessary to do so. She is well-prepared each time she presides over a meeting.

I wish the majority of the councilors, especially those of the old school, would also do their homework. They receive their packets of information at least two weeks in advance of the meetings.

If they thoroughly read and absorb all of the information provided, they could prepare themselves beforehand for proper discussion of the various issues brought to the fore at the council meetings. If they question something, they should seek answers beforehand so they would thoroughly understand the issues.

But they don't. I have seen them start bumbling through their packets at various meetings and raising a ruckus when they know "zilch" about the matter at hand, not having prepared themselves prior to attending a meeting.

Three councilors out of the six who have called a special meeting for May 10th to decide the fate of the council president were not even present at the meeting when the council president was elected. Why? What had priority over this important meeting? That was their chance to elect someone else.

Was it because they knew that none of them could do the job as well? Was it because they decided to let her be elected and then constantly give her a hard time at meetings to try to make her lose face? Well, I must say that they are the ones who are losing face.

We do not need ineloquent councilors representing Agawam. We do not need bar stool politicians representing Agawam. We do not need councilors who do not do their homework. And we certainly do not need councilors who truly do not have the love for, dedication to, and betterment of Agawam at heart and seek only their own glory and not that of Agawam!

All "silent" Agawam citizens in agreement—please do your duty to Agawam and make yourselves heard ... NOW!

Janice Bonk (Muckraker)
Feeding Hills

SEE LETTERS -
continued to Page 6...

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LETTERS - from Page 5...

Support Given For Decision
On Kindergarten Program

To The Editor:

This letter is in response to a letter written to *The AAN* by Mrs. Goncalves last week. I must commend Mayor Johnson, Lou Massola, Rosemary Sandlin, and Linda Galarneau for their decision to help out the working parents. Theresa Kozloski and Roberta Doering and yourself mention that it would be unfair to exclude working parents who do not earn a paycheck. Welcome to the REALity World where we must face reality everyday. There are many situations that are unfair and life dictates that there must be winners and losers, and people who are fortunate and less fortunate. That's life!

I think it is wonderful that you are able to volunteer your time to our school children. But that is your choice. My husband and I have to work for a living to support our family. Unfortunately, I do not have a choice. I would love nothing more than to stay home with my children or maybe volunteer my time to the school system. But in today's world, many of us do not have those privileges. I, too, volunteer my time to the community, but must wait until after work to do so. Therefore, I must consider your situation a fortunate one and my situation a less fortunate. I would love to see all children go to full-day kindergarten, as other communities offer this program. However, because of possibly lack of room, teachers, or capital, our town cannot provide this for us at this time.

I don't know if you realize what it is like for working parents with young children, but let me tell you what my days would be like if my child doesn't get chosen to participate in the all-day kindergarten program. I work a full 40-hour week with a 45-minute lunch break daily. Each day I would have to drive home on my lunch break to meet my child from the bus, then bring her to daycare, then drive back to work. Not only do I lose my break, but I have to pay for daycare and gas for my car. I probably could solve the problem of having to pick up my child and bring her to daycare by getting a provider on my busline. However, that would mean I would have to uproot my other child from a daycare provider who we are very happy to have. But again, I still incur the cost of daycare.

Since I consider your situation to be a fortunate one and mine to be less fortunate, our situations are far from equal. So how can you say the openings should be split 50-50 and treat everyone equal, when in fact there are many situations that

are not equal? I must thank these members of the School Committee who are showing some compassion for the less fortunate parents who have to go to work and earn a paycheck. Be thankful that you have that choice and hopefully you would change your mind as to how you feel. Someday I would like to see everyone have the opportunity to send their child all day, but for now we must do the best we can. Even with their recent decision to help out the working parents, my child still only has a chance of being chosen to participate, but now a better chance. And maybe, just maybe, next year I will get a break.

Laurie Littlefield
Feeding Hills

Welfare Policy Is An
Election Year Ploy

To The Editor:

With all due respect for Senator Melconian, fingerprinting and facial imaging for welfare recipients is of no benefit to taxpayers, but a costly resurrection of Big Brother.

Next, we'll probably have voiceprints, retina scans, and DNA sampling to boot - all to create a registry for the state's underclass, falsely presumed a criminal class.

It will cost far more than the modest welfare fraud that has occurred, but if fraud was an issue, then the State would surely subject to this process all applicants for whatever license, certificate, or program it provides.

In fact, it is an election year ploy, playing only to the most irrational fears of a majority white electorate.

It also has the purpose of frightening people away from assistance they need.

Seems a little sinister, doesn't it?

Sincerley,
Owen Broadhurst
Agawam

Berkshire Power's In Lieu Of
Tax Agreement Is Ridiculous

To The Editor:

I would like to take this time to make a personal offer to the Agawam Town Council. I call it "My in Lieu of Lunch Offer."

Instead of a bag lunch, I would like to offer all schoolchildren in Agawam a week's supply of a Big Mac, large fries, and a super-sized Coke from the McDonald's in Feeding Hills Center. If the Town Council agrees to this offer by June 3, 1996, I'll even throw in a cherry pie! But remember, after

June 3rd, if you don't agree, all these kids may get is a Coke, and it won't be super-sized.

Now you may say that this offer is absurd and ridiculous. THERE IS NO MCDONALD'S IN FEEDING HILLS CENTER! Well, this offer is no more absurd or ridiculous than the offer of "In lieu of taxes" from Berkshire Power.

You see, Berkshire Power and the McDonald's in Feeding Hills Center have one common bond... neither have a special permit to build at their respective sites. If my in lieu of lunch offer is absurd and ridiculous (which, of course, it is), then so, too, is this in lieu of tax agreement by Berkshire Power.

This is a zoning law issue, not a financial issue. It is not often I envy you on the Council, but this past Monday night was an exception. If I were sitting in your chair, I would, in no uncertain terms, point out the gall and absurdity of our Mayor and his cronies from Berkshire Power. He has attempted to force our Council, our legislative body, to a deadline vote on an industry that was denied a permit to build in the first place.

Remember, Berkshire Power has taken our town to court in an attempt to circumvent our zoning laws, and force their way into our town. Mayor Johnson should be the leader in the defense of our town's laws. Instead, he chooses to ignore those laws that he has pledged to uphold.

One councilor said last summer that he did not appreciate outsiders coming into our town and telling us how to run things. Well, Councilor, what do you call this? Extortion and blackmail are very strong words and I am not going to use them here, but what do you call this? The Council has to vote in favor by June 3rd, or the deal changes?

This in lieu of tax deal is very much the same as an in lieu of lunch deal at the McDonald's in Feeding Hills; anyone who agrees to this deal is indeed out to lunch.

Finally, when the Mayor announced this in lieu of tax agreement, he did so privately and not in front of the Town Council or the Agawam residents in general. Why? In announcing this agreement, he thanked two former Councilors for helping him out. I assume our Town Solicitor Tom Locke also helped on this in lieu of tax agreement.

I have 10 questions to Mayor Johnson:

1. When was this in lieu of tax deal really made?
2. Was it made in March of 1995 as stated by Ken Roberts in *The AAN*, or not?
3. Was this deal made after November 8, 1995 when the former Councilors became private citizens?
4. Was this deal done after January 2, 1996 when Berkshire Power was denied a special permit?
5. Was Tom Locke instructed by his boss, Mayor Johnson, to work on this agreement after the permit was denied?

SEE LETTERS - Page 7...

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Arranging a funeral at the time of death is emotionally difficult; however, in pre-planning your funeral, you take care of all the important arrangements and decisions today before the need arises. And if you choose to pre-pay, you will alleviate the financial burden on your family.

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FUNERAL PLANNING

LETTERS - from Page 6...

6. Is Tom Locke being paid by town residents for working on an agreement with Berkshire Power after their request for a special permit was denied?

7. If Mayor Johnson instructed Tom Locke to work on this agreement, has he also instructed our other Town Solicitor, Attorney Sciafani, on how to deal with the lawsuit facing our town?

8. Can Chris Johnson answer any of these questions truthfully?

9. Will Chris Johnson answer any of these questions at all?

10. Why does it seem, Mayor Johnson, that your commitment to Berkshire Power is greater than your obligation to your oath of office?

Sincerely,
Ken Forni
Agawam

People's Petition Ignored By Town Officials

To The Editor:

We, the people, have filed a petition to call a public meeting. The Town Council voted to hold the meeting on May 6th. The signatures on the petition were certified by the Election Commission. We also filed, as the law requires, that the meeting be conducted under Rule 38. This rule was established for exactly this type of case.

Why did council President Nancy Thompson ask City Solicitor Thomas Locke to render an opinion on the substance of the reasons we called for the public meeting? Locke's rendition of what may happen if the public meeting is held is absolutely dangerous and improper. In fact, it is ridiculous.

That is why the meeting must be run by Rule 38. Remember, Locke's letter (saying the meeting should be cancelled) suggests that we, the people, may be the criminals. Why did we, the people, have to lose our public meeting?

President Thompson asked the city attorney for that opinion without the permission of the council. Did Mayor Johnson play a hand in this game? Locke made an opinion when he does not know and the council does not know, and President Thompson does not know, what the issue is all about. How dare he do this.

Why has Thompson become so defensive before any charges have been made? Doesn't she

want the air cleared?

The petition simply requests the meeting "for the purpose of determining IF the misuse of public funds has been allowed."

No charges have been made, YET. Councilors, your president has acted so defensively. WHY? Why is Thompson attempting to defend the culprits, if there ARE ANY? Why does Locke make a decision for the defense of those who may be involved in wrong-doing? Isn't the issue to investigate to find if there is any wrong-doing?

THIS MEETING MUST BE HELD to determine if the people's concerns are real.

Doesn't it become clear for the need for Rule 38 which the law requires - FOR THE COUNCIL TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY TO DO THE INVESTIGATION? If there is any wrong-doing, don't we, the people, have the right to know? Don't you, the council, want the truth? Isn't that what this issue is all about?

ARE THEY AFRAID THAT WE, THE PEOPLE, MAY HAVE A CASE?

In any event, we, by the law, have put the case in the District Attorney's hands. But the law requires that we, the people, must first make the effort to clear the air through the council's efforts.

Again, if you read the caption on the petition, it simply reads, "If there is a misuse of public funds allowed by the council and the administration." That is why the law stipulates that the town's attorneys must vacate themselves from the case.

The city attorney should have explained the process to the council and not mislead the council with scare tactics. Who is Thompson defending? Is she in fear that we, the people, have a case?

One member of the council had the audacity (which is typical for this councilor) to say at the last meeting that this people's petition was three years-old. Why call him a liar when there are words more befitting? Myself and others stood at the Post Office for several days and received the bulk of our signatures, some 200, in the very cold weather in late 1995. What does this councilor have to hide?

We, the people, filed our case with the DA's Office and they suggested that we go to the council first. AND WE DID. And now, there is a coverup and we, the people, won't be denied.

The truth must be known and soon. The council president can hide from the truth but the people can't and won't.

Sincerely,
Valentine R. Moreno
Agawam

School Specialty Is The Kind Of Business Agawam Needs

To The Editor:

I was asked to write this letter on behalf of the CCBA. The one and only reason for the CCBA organization was and always will be to prevent Berkshire Power from coming into "our" community. We wish to step out of character for a moment on another matter—a business known as School Specialty, Inc., formerly known as New England School Supply.

Somewhere along the way, the right message was sent to industry and business. We do provide an Industrial Park for this purpose. The park is about three-quarters full with good taxpaying companies that have created employment for a number of people.

We now have this company seeking approval to build a consolidated 163,000 square foot warehouse and distribution center. This company will be creating 40 new jobs.

Their industrial building will be built on a 15-acre site conforming to the City of Agawam Building Code, and conforming to the 40-foot height restriction in keeping with the rest of the structures that are presently in the park.

Based on a construction cost of \$6,000,000 to \$8,000,000, this business would contribute approximately \$125,000 to \$160,000 in annual tax revenue in addition to personal property taxes. They are going to pay their fair share of taxes just like you and me and every other business in this community, with the exception of Bondi's Island, which has an in-lieu-of-tax agreement.

I ask you to compare this company's proposal to a very controversial project now in litigation, and tell me which is best for the Town of Agawam.

School Specialty, Inc. is the kind of business that is needed and wanted in our community and will receive the full support of the people. The right message that they got is to come to Agawam, abide by the Code, pay your just taxes, be a good neighbor, forget all schemes, leave your Trojan horse at home, and you will be welcome in Agawam.

If there is a "red carpet" available, the CCBA respectfully requests to be the ones to roll it out welcoming this company into our community.

We sincerely support this project and urge the Council and other boards to make every "legal" effort "within the roles" to expedite their progress so that this concern can meet their time schedule.

Michael DelNegro
Agawam

You Don't Have To Go To Springfield Any More For Discount Greeting Cards



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Ag. Republican Challenging Keenan For Rep. Seat

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Agawam Republicans are looking to a native son to unseat State Representative Daniel Keenan (D) and return the Third Hampden District to the Republican fold for the first time in 14 years.

Announcing his candidacy last week, Robert A. Magovern of 149 Birch Hill Road, Agawam, said the top priority for Agawam is to win back the seat lost two years ago to Keenan, whom he called a political newcomer from Blandford.

The father of two grown children, Magovern, 53, is president of Neighbor to Neighbor of America, a service welcoming newcomers to Western Massachusetts and Connecticut. He is the former vice-president of The Magovern Company, Inc.

A 1961 graduate of Agawam High School with a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Boston University, Magovern claims roots in Agawam on his mother's side going back to the Bodurtha family in colonial days. Magovern said his father emigrated from Ireland at the age of 14, founded a successful business, and established a family tradition of community service.

Making his first run for elective office, Magovern is no stranger to statewide party politics. A member of the Republican State Committee, Magovern has close ties to the Weld administration and says Lt. Governor Paul Cellucci is a personal friend.

Managing the Magovern campaign, City Councilor Christian Quatrone said Magovern's close ties to the seat of power in Boston will enhance Agawam's position in statewide politics.

Furthermore, Keenan will be shut-out of the Democratic leadership since he did not vote for Thomas Finneran as the Speaker of the House, in addition to being cut off from the Republican administration, Quatrone said.

"The big issue is Keenan is not from Agawam. He hasn't done anything bad, but what has he done in two years? Keenan hasn't produced, and he's going to have even less clout in the future," Magovern said.

Quatrone said the trust built up in the community by the Magovern family will be an important factor in the race. "There isn't anyone who doesn't know Bob or his brother or his father," Quatrone said.

Political Views Are Similar To Weld's

Magovern said his political views are similar to Weld's — more liberal on the social issues and more conservative on the financial issues. Although he believes the state must take care of its neediest citizens, he does not believe in giving



ROBERT A. MAGOVERN

anyone a free ride.

Magovern said his top two priorities are education and economic development. He promised to work for common sense solutions to economic problems.

"We have to build a stable tax base so we can afford what we need to educate our kids so that we have a qualified workforce," Magovern said.

"I have no special interest groups behind me," Magovern said. "My only special interest is helping the people of Agawam, Southwick, and the hill towns."

Against bringing casino gambling to the state, Magovern said, "We're building on sand if we're going to rely on lotteries and gambling."

Magovern said he plans to take the high road and run a clean campaign focused on the issues, as he introduces himself to voters across the district.

"I'll be knocking on doors and attending all the functions in the district," Magovern said.

The Magovern campaign will hold a fundraiser on June 27th at 6:30 p.m. at The Oaks. Lt. Governor Paul Cellucci is expected to attend.

Melconian Committee Approves Licensure For Dieticians

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced that on Thursday, May 2nd, the Senate Committee on Science and Technology favorably reported legislation providing licensure for dieticians and nutritionists within the Commonwealth.

The bill would set up a board of registration made up of registered dieticians and nutritionists within the division of registration in the Executive Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation.

The board, appointed by the Governor, would consist of three registered dieticians, three registered nutritionists, and one member who is both a registered dietician and nutritionist. In addition to granting licenses, the board would handle disciplinary cases and the revocation of licenses.

The Senate legislation would set up separate licensing for dieticians and nutritionists. Each candidate for licensure must have a baccalaureate degree or higher from an accredited college or university with a major course of study in dietetics or a variety of nutritional disciplines.

To obtain a license, most candidates would have to pass an exam approved by the board, and show various amounts of experience based upon education levels. Others would be "grandfathered" into licensure based on their registration with the Commission on Dietetic Registration, Certification Board of Nutrition Specialists, or American Board of Nutrition.

The bill would not restrict anyone from giving information about food, dietary supplements, or practicing alternative medical approaches as long as they do not claim to be licensed.

"Licensing for dieticians and nutritionists is important because the consumer needs to be aware of the quality of the treatment he or she will receive," Melconian said. "All other health professions have licensing standards, and dietetics should be no different."

The legislation already differs substantially from the House bill passed in February. The House did not differentiate between dieticians/nutritionists in licensing, and the board would be comprised of registered and non-registered dieticians. The Senate bill is a compromise between the competing interests of dieticians and nutritionists.

"Our committee was more balanced in giving recognition to both dieticians and nutritionists," Melconian said. "As the bill moves forward for further Senate action, my priority is to make sure that the rights of the dieticians, who work with hospitals and other respected health professionals, are respected and protected."

CCBA Seeks Answers On Power Plant

The CCBA is opposed to Berkshire Power constructing a power plant at their proposed site, regardless of any tax or non-tax agreement. THIS IS A ZONING LAW ISSUE, NOT A FINANCIAL ISSUE!

The CCBA requests the answers to three questions:

1. If Ken Roberts was truthful in March of 1995, then why did the Mayor wait 14 months to announce the in lieu of tax agreement?

2. Berkshire Power cannot build a power plant on this site, according to the Agawam zoning laws. Why did the Mayor announce this agreement at all?

3. Why did the Mayor announce this agreement before a group that was organized and financially supported in part by Berkshire Power, and not in front of the Town Council?

**Best
local
news**



Was anyone hurt?

The first thing most insurance carriers want to know after you've had an accident is if you have a police report. Things are different at Canary Blomstrom Insurance.

You see, our primary concern is you, our customer. We believe relationships are more important than policy numbers. That's why when you call us with an accident claim, our first question is about your welfare. It's not just a line—we'll cover insurance matters soon enough.

Service to our customers has always been our top priority, and it's what sets us apart from most insurance agents. As one of our clients put it "I didn't realize the service I wasn't getting until I switched to Canary Blomstrom."

We offer a complete line of personal and business insurance programs custom designed to fit your needs. Please call for a free cost comparison based on your existing policy.

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Rep. Keenan Works To Ease Burden Of Title 5 Regulations

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan has co-sponsored budget amendments to the Title 5 Regulations that are aimed at alleviating the burden to homeowners with septic systems.

In light of the Legislative Report on the 1995 Revisions to Title 5: The Commonwealth's Clean Water Rules, the amendments were adopted during the House debate on the Fiscal Year 1997 State Budget. The report was presented in February 1996 by the Joint Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture and the Special House Commission on Title 5.

The amendments include the establishment of a Title 5 Tax Credit of a maximum of \$6,000, spread out over four years in installments, for homeowners who paid \$15,000 to bring their septic systems up to code. Also included is the establishment of a Title 5 Tax Deduction of \$2,500 for homeowners upgrading their septic systems and the elimination of the automatic failure of metal septic tanks installed within the last 20 years.

A second amendment co-sponsored by Rep. Keenan would eliminate septic system inspections when the home is sold, but only in those communities that have a management plan in place for septic system inspections. Furthermore, at the point of sale, the prospective buyer would be allowed to request in writing from the homeowner notification as to the state of the septic system.

Other amendments will require that DEP and local boards of health increase technical assistance to homeowners in complying with Title 5 standards and provide for revisions to the Betterment Bill through which the previously authorized \$40 million in low-interest loans are to be available to homeowners upgrading their septic systems.

"These amendments are a huge victory for Massachusetts homeowners with septic systems," stated Rep. Keenan. "The House has acted responsibly to ease the burden of the Title 5 regulations upon the homeowner while at the same time protecting the environment and the Commonwealth's water resources."

The amendments await action by the State Senate as it takes up the Fiscal 1997 State Budget, and any differences will be resolved by a conference committee made up of leaders from both branches of the Legislature.

Representative Keenan Secures COA Increase In State House Budget

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan has successfully secured an increase in funding for seniors across Massachusetts. Rep. Keenan co-sponsored a budget amendment to secure an additional 22½ cents per senior for local services.

If passed by the Senate and approved by the Governor, local Councils on Aging will receive an increase from \$3.20 per senior to approximately \$3.42 per senior for fiscal year 1997. The amendment received widespread support in the House as well as from seniors and local Councils on Aging across the state.

"This increase will allow much-needed services to be expanded among our fastest-growing population—our seniors," stated Rep. Keenan.

Councils on Aging provide escort services to medical appointments, Meals on Wheels, exercise programs, transportation, intergenerational programs, and dozens of other programs and services to over 400,000 seniors across Massachusetts.

"Just as our Councils on Aging work hard to meet the needs of our seniors, the state must take financial responsibility to fund these vital programs and services," concluded Rep. Keenan.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN COUNCIL AGAWAM, MA

THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON MAY 20, 1996 AT 7:30 p.m. AT THE AGAWAM MIDDLE SCHOOL, 68 MAIN STREET, AGAWAM, MASS. ON THE APPLICATION OF BUTLER REALTY INC. FOR A LICENSE TO KEEP, STORE FOR PERSONAL USE/OR RE-SALE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN UNDERGROUND TANKS OR ABOVE GROUND NOT TO EXCEED 8300 GALLONS AT 101 ALMGREN DRIVE IN THE TOWN OF AGAWAM, MA.

VERY TRULY YOUR,

Richard M. Theroux, Town Clerk

Published: May 9, 1996

LEGAL NOTICE

Letter Carriers Set To Hold Food Drive For Open Pantry

This Saturday, May 11th, is the "Letter Carriers' Food Drive" to benefit the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry.

All the food collected in Agawam and West Springfield will go to the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. The food collected will last throughout the summer and into the fall.

This is a big day for the Pantry, and many volunteers are needed to help us successfully collect, sort, and store the large quantity of canned goods. Pick-up trucks and vans are also needed for transporting the food.

The collection place will be the gymnasium of St. Thomas School on Route 20 in West Springfield. Kelly Containers has donated a storage container for Open Pantry's use.

Volunteers are needed from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and especially after 3:00 p.m. when donations are the heaviest.

All volunteers will meet at the St. Thomas School gymnasium. Patrick Kearney will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers throughout the day for all the volunteers and letter carriers.

For more information, call the Pantry at 734-7969.

FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano
First Aid For Burns

The actions you take in the minutes immediately following a burn injury could literally mean the difference in life and death.

The Agawam Fire Department says that the best first aid is to cool the burn with water, cover with a clean cloth, and get medical attention at once.

Never use greasy or oily products—no creams, ointments, or butter; they hold the heat. And don't use ice.

Take burns seriously; the complications can be fatal.

For more information, call the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

Check our classified pages every week

Happy Mother's Day!

If you're looking for something special for Mom, this is the place to be this weekend. We have thousands of healthy, beautiful plants—one greenhouse full of impatiens for shady

spots, and another full of sun-loving annuals.

We have hundreds of perennials as well, everything from hosta, peonies, and bleeding hearts, to bee balm, day lilies and hollyhocks.

And everywhere you look will be another hanging basket—fuchsias, geraniums, lobelia, impatiens (double & New Guinea, too!), bacopa, strawflower, scaveola, and lots more.

We also have a huge selection of vegetable plants and herbs for the kitchen garden.

And if Mom doesn't really have a green

thumb, we can help out there with plant food, advice, and growing tips. *Have some fun this Mother's Day, plant a garden!*



Anna Cecchi in the fields, 1952. The dark-colored house at the left was torn down in the late 1980s to make way for a greenhouse and parking lot expansion.

Happy Mother's Day to Grammy, Nani, Ma, Laurie, and Michelle, from Megan and all "the Cecchi Boys" (Robert, David, Bobby, Michael, Dillon, and Joe).

1946~1996

E. Cecchi Farms 1131 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills

"Everything you'd grow if you had 40 acres."

Agawam Obituaries

Donald R. Lomelino, Jr.

Donald R. Lomelino, Jr., 35, of 19 Valentine Terrace, Agawam, died at home.

He was employed in hotel management.

Born in Portsmouth, N.H., he was a graduate of Agawam High School.

He leaves his parents, Donald R. of Bonita Springs, Fla., and Edith (Julian) Lomelino of Agawam; two brothers, Paul D. of Boston and Anthony A. of Florida; and two sisters, Tina Dagenais of Ludlow and Sharon R. Waskiewicz of Westfield.

A memorial Mass will be held Saturday in Sacred Heart Church in Springfield. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours.

Memorial contributions may be made to AIDS Research, Infectious Disease Unit, Baystate Medical Center, Development Office, WMB 5, Springfield, MA 01199.

Sampson State Street Funeral Home is in charge.

Edward R. St. Onge, Sr.

Edward R. St. Onge, Sr., 70, of 26 Brookline Avenue, Feeding Hills, died in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a retired 35-year mail handler for the U.S. Postal Service in Springfield, prior to retiring in 1996.

He was born in West Springfield and has lived in Feeding Hills since 1962. He was a member of Agawam United Methodist Church.

He was an Army veteran of World War II and a member of the West Springfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6714.

He leaves his wife, the former Arlene Blanchard; a son, Edward R., Jr. of Feeding Hills; a daughter, Marcia Lee St. Onge of West Springfield; two brothers, Anthony and William, both of West Springfield; a sister, Mildred LeBlanc of Chicopee; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Antoinetta Bonavita

Antoinetta "Donay" (Gagliarducci) Bonavita, 83, formerly of 63 River Road, Agawam, died at a local nursing home.

She owned the former Sunday's Restaurant in Springfield in the 1960's.

Born in the city, she was a longtime resident of Agawam, a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, and a member of Vittoria Colonna Lodge 1694 of the Sons of Italy.

Her husband, Victor A. Bonavita, died in 1980.

She leaves two sons, Victor R. of Agawam, and Gary A. of South Hadley; three daughters, Betty Downie of Springfield, Carol A. Spaeth of West Springfield, and Donna M. Pratte of Wilbraham; three brothers, Benjamin of Springfield, Albert of Agawam, and Frank of West Springfield; 15 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, on THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1996, at 6:30 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of BAYSTATE GAS COMPANY which is seeking a SPECIAL PERMIT in accordance with Section 180-7, Paragraph B of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of a new regulator building at the premises identified as 202 SPRINGFIELD STREET.

Ronald Hebert, Chairman

Published: May 9, 1996

Best local news...



TAYLOR RENTAL

Agawam - West Springfield - Wilbraham

"HOT AIR DIVISION"

BALLOON DECORATING AND
DELIVERIES FOR ALL OCCASIONS.

413-786-4433

Sandi Conti

Janet Walsh

The funeral is set for Thursday morning, May 9th, at Colonial Funeral Home and the church, with burial at St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Susan M. Couture

Susan M. (Wuttke) Couture, 41, of 337 North West Street, Feeding Hills, died in Chesterfield.

She was the former owner of the Computer General Store on State Street, Springfield.

Born in Holyoke, she was graduated from South Hadley High School in 1973.

She was active in the Massachusetts Citizens for Life.

She leaves her husband, Stephen Couture; her parents, Edward and Mildred (Ezyk) Wuttke of South Hadley; two sons, Eric Knowles of South Hadley, and Brian Knowles of Bristol, R.I.; two brothers, Davis of South Hadley and Mark of Japan; and two grandchildren.

The funeral and burial were private and at the convenience of the family. Colonial Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Box 96, 109 Main Street, Ludlow, MA 01056.

Andrew Nieroda

Andrew Nieroda, 83, of 114 Leonard Street, Agawam, died in Enfield.

He was a machinist at Simons Container Co. for 15 years, and retired in 1983.

Born in North Adams, he moved to Agawam in 1938.

His wife, the former Catherine Burdick, died in 1985.

He leaves a son, Andrew F. of Enfield; three daughters, Karen Locker of Austin, Texas, Carol Ann Nieroda of Rockville, MD, and Paula Mary Pelkey of Florence, Northampton; two sisters, Vanda Krutiak of Savoy, and Stella Jyzk of Adams; and nine grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Curran-Jones Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Home and Community Health Services Hospice, P.O. Box 1199, Enfield, CT 06083-1199.

Lucy M. Oliveri

Lucy Marie (Buoniconto) Oliveri, 93, formerly of 514 Meadow Street, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

Born and schooled in Springfield, she lived in Agawam for 40 years.

She was a communicant of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Springfield, and a member of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 55 Auxiliary in West Springfield.

Her husband, Anthony Oliveri, died in 1958.

She leaves a son, Dominick A. of Agawam; a brother, Dr. Pasquale of Novi, Michigan; two sisters, Antoinette Fiore and Anna Pietronino of Longmeadow; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, with burial at St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church renovation fund at 123 William Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Sonja E. Roberts

Sonja E. (Orr) Roberts, 31, of 19 Norman Terrace Extension, Feeding Hills, died in Miami, Florida, after a car accident.

Born in Anaheim, California, she lived in Miami before moving to Feeding Hills in 1982.

She was a deacon of the Baptist Church, and was active in its Youth Group.

She leaves her husband, Jeffrey A. Roberts; three sons, Brian J., Austin R., and Tyler A., at home; her father, Harold G. Orr of Birthright, Texas; her mother, Elaine (McDonald) Stevens of Miami; a brother, Michael of Texas; and a sister, Jessica Stevens of Miami.

The funeral was held in the church, with burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western Massachusetts, Inc., 1 Armory Square, Springfield, MA 01105, or the Sonja Roberts Memorial Fund, in care of Kathleen Ferguson, Westfield Savings Bank, Box 334, Agawam, MA 01001.

Anne M. Luccardi

Anne M. (Piazzo) Luccardi, 80, of 129 Florida Drive, Agawam, a 42-year billing clerk for Strathmore Paper Co. of West Springfield and Westfield, died at home.

She retired in 1980.

Born in Springfield, she was a graduate of Agawam High School and a resident of Agawam for the past 70 years.

She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church. She was a supporter of many American Indian Charities across the U.S. and a benefactor to organizations in the Springfield area.

Her husband, Joseph Luccardi, died in 1972.

She leaves a brother, Joseph F., Jr. of Satsuma, Fla., and two nephews, Robert Shugda of Gansvoort, N.Y., and Joseph F. III of North Adams.

The funeral was held at Colonial Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery in West Springfield. Memorial contributions may be made to the Springfield Rescue Mission, P.O. Box 2424, Springfield, MA 01101.

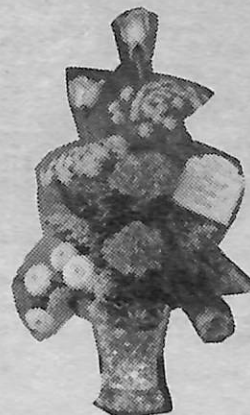
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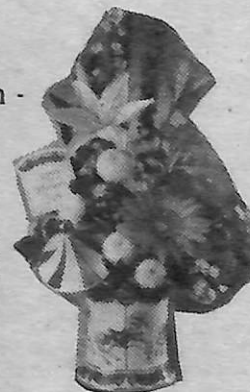
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School Committee Sets Format For Superintendent Interviews

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

At a workshop session earlier this week, School Committee members met to set the format for interviewing candidates in the search for a new school chief.

Last week, the application screening committee completed its job. After reviewing the application packages sent by 29 candidates, the committee settled on a field of 12 semi-finalists, including three local administrators.

The Agawam candidates are Phyllis Lewis, principal of Granger School; Donald Charest, associate superintendent of schools; and John Brosnan, director of special services.

School Committee policy dictates that all local candidates will be interviewed.

Completion of the field of 12 are four candidates from Massachusetts and five from out of state.

The in-state semi-finalists are Carl A. Ostrowski, Westfield High School Principal; Ann M. Southworth, special assistant to the Superintendent for Special Projects (Springfield); John Cullinan, superintendent of North Berkshire School Union No. 343; and Paul F. Lengieza, assistant superintendent, Hamilton-Wenham Regional District.

The out-of-state candidates are John Dirnbauer, president and CEO of Accelerated Medical Billings Solutions of Lima, PA; Frank Ameruso, superintendent of schools, California, PA; Arthur L. Hanson, superintendent of schools, Waterville, Maine; John J. Klotz, superintendent of schools,

Dewitt, Iowa; and Vincent F. Simone, superintendent of schools, Bellmore, NY.

The School Committee will interview 12 candidates in four public sessions televised on Cable Access Channel 5 beginning next week. The sessions are scheduled to run from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Middle School auditorium. Each interview is expected to last about an hour.

Each applicant will have 10 minutes for opening remarks to discuss their employment history over the past 10 years and make a statement on their educational backgrounds and academic achievements.

The School Committee will ask each applicant the same 15 philosophical and policy questions and the same three hypothetical questions on their reactions to scenarios dealing with academic programming, student discipline, and teacher contract disputes.

Each candidate will also face miscellaneous questions from the School Committee based on the information in their application packets, and each will have five minutes to make their closing remarks and ask questions.

The interviews are scheduled for May 13th, 15th, 21st, and 22nd. The three finalists named at the May 28th School Committee meeting will face final interviews June 10th and 11th.

The three local candidates will be interviewed on May 13th; scheduled for May 15th are Frank Ameruso, Arthur L. Hanson, and Paul F. Lengieza.

Foreign Students Seek Host Families Through Agawam AFS Program

The Agawam Chapter of American Intercultural Programs (AFS) is seeking host families for the 1996-97 school year for several foreign exchange students, including a young woman from Panama, to be members of the Class of 1997 at Agawam High School.

Agawam AFS has been a sponsor chapter of AFS International for the past 21 years and is considered one of the most successful in all of New England.

Currently, Agawam AFS is sponsoring five students at Agawam High School. The students arrive in early August and return to their home countries the first week of July the following year (after spending what is hoped to be the most memorable year of their lives with an American host family).

AFS USA sponsors over 4,000 students and visiting teachers each year.

Host families come from all walks of life and from all income levels. AFS International assumes health and liability insurance. The Agawam Chapter of AFS helps the students it sponsors with many school related expenses.

Hosting an AFS student can be one of the most wonderful and exhilarating experiences for a local family and this is based on the many past successes of hosting families in our community.

If you are interested in hearing more information about Agawam AFS, or may be interested in hosting for the 1996/97 school year, please contact Allen Machia, Agawam AFS Family Placement chairman (786-0114), Mary Ellen Bruce, Agawam High AFS advisor (789-1400, extension 421, weekdays), or Ric Sardella, chapter president (786-7747 days; 789-2005, evenings).

Veterans' Graves To Be Flagged On May 19th

The Agawam Veterans' Council has set plans to flag the graves of Agawam veterans on Sunday, May 19th.

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law, in all cities and towns where there are cemeteries containing the remains of deceased veterans, a United States flag will be placed upon each grave.

The Veterans' Council is encouraging participation in this annual event. Boys' and girls' scout organizations and interested residents are invited to help. Volunteers are invited to meet at the

Agawam Center Cemetery or Springfield Street Cemetery at 9:00 a.m. All help is appreciated.

In addition, parade registration forms have been mailed to those organizations that normally participate in the town's annual Memorial Day Parade.

If your organization has not been contacted and you would like to join us for the parade, please contact any Veterans' Council member or call Veterans' Agent Ruth Bitzas at the Town Hall, 786-0400, ext. 236.

Reception For Ryder Being Planned For Friday, May 31st

A reception for Superintendent of Schools Bernard Ryder, in honor of his retirement, will be held Friday, May 31st from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the Agawam Junior High School Cafeteria.

Refreshments will be served. The public is cordially invited.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, on THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1996, at 6:45 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of ALMA MARCINKIEWICZ who is seeking a

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

SPECIAL USE PERMIT EXCEPTION in accordance with Section 180-11 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the storage of Federally Regulated Materials, at the premises identified as 28 MOORELAND STREET.

Ronald Hebert, Chairman

Published: May 9, 1996

LEGAL NOTICE

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Immaculate 5-plus Rm, 2 1/2 Ba, 2 c gar Twnhse. Motivated!	\$114,900
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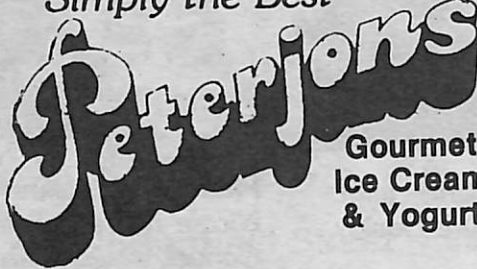
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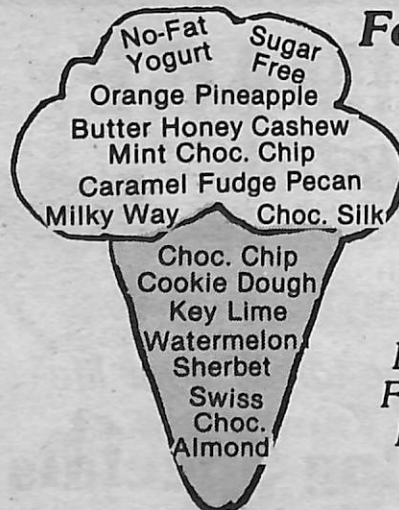
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Families

"Miss Agawam Pageant - 1996"



Tara Fiorini ("Miss Agawam 1996"), Pageant Director Lori Boyle, and Erin Lightcap ("Miss Personality"). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



The "Talent" winners included Tara Fiorini, Lindsay Canuel, Lisa Marsh, and Erin Cocchi. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



Pageant Director Lori Boyle with Alexandra Bonavita ("Supreme Queen" - Overall High Score). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



Pageant Director Lori Boyle (right) with helpers Kristine Grytch and Treasure Davidson. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



Photogenic winners - Christin Cilimberg, Nicole Macey, Jennifer Pressey, and Lindsay Canuel. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



Kimberly Grunwald came away with two titles—"Talent" and "Personality"—at the recently held "Miss Agawam Pageant - 1996."

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AHS Class Of 1946 Making Plans For Big 50-Year Reunion

Agawam High School's Class of 1946 president Bob Backstrom suggested at the last reunion that the 50th should be held in Las Vegas. Sorry, Bob. No way!

Bob, his wife, Evelyn Peterson Backstrom, Eddy Green, his wife, Wanda, and Tom Aitchison all reside in California. It is a scattered class after 50 years. Nine members live in Connecticut, five are settled in Florida, two in Arizona, with one each in New York, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, Illinois, Vermont, Maine, and New Hampshire. Fifty-one still live in Massachusetts, and of those, 24 still live in good old Agawam.

As a class, it was a prolific bunch. Collective progeny number—188! The grandchildren and great-grandchildren must be an awesome total.

This is a momentous occasion. Co-chairperson Mardy Breuninger Popowich and Raoul Sands, along with their committee members Eleanor Serra Artioli, Phyllis Campbell Gosselin, Joe Tangocci, Marie Paro Viens, Stew Safford, and Elsie Wood Gosselin have great plans in store for you. The date is Saturday, October 5, 1996 with a reception and dinner at Alexander's in Feeding Hills. On Sunday, October 6, 1996, there will be a cruise and brunch on the Connecticut River. We hope you will come to both, but you may attend one or the other—your preference.

Come reminisce, renew friendships formed more than 50 years ago.

Remember Shamrock Shennanigans—does Hank Dickinson still do those magic tricks? And if Joe Tangocci doesn't bring his accordion, he can't come. How about the "Teen Town Trot" with songs by Gerry Hauff Syrett, Dolores Rivers Kehoe, Lil Paro Scibelli, and our dear departed, Gladys Johnson St. Peter? What about our champion football team with co-captains Stew Safford and Tom Aitchison, both elected to the "All Western Mass. Team?" How about Jimmy Fenn's spectacular plays in basketball? We beat West Side then, remember?

We have travelled many diverse paths since graduation. Overcoming obstacles, earning plaudits, each according to his or her own dreams and ambitions. We are so very proud to be a part of this Class of '46 and look forward to this 50th reunion on October 5th. Be there!

For more details, call Mardy at (413) 734-1253 or Raoul at (413) 789-6733.

Ag. Historical Assoc. Plans June 8th Tour Of Strawberry Banke

The Agawam Historical Association will present a tour of the Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth, New Hampshire on June 8, 1996.

The museum recreates 300 years of neighborhood history at Puddle Dock. Portsmouth's Market Square Day will highlight the streets of Portsmouth lined with vendors selling their wares.

The cost is \$20 and includes bus and entrance fee and tip for the driver. The bus will depart at 7:00 a.m. from Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills to arrive at the museum at 10:00 a.m. The bus will arrive back in Feeding Hills at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Dinner will be at Yokens in Portsmouth. Menu prices range from \$6.95-\$10.95 with Daily Specials. Order from the menu, with separate checks.

Reservations and payment are due by May 10, 1996. Mail payment to the Agawam Historical Association, P.O. Box 552, Agawam, MA 01001. For more information, call 786-6835.

Jr. Women's Club Making Plans For Country Dance

Back by popular demand, the Agawam Junior Women's Club invites you to the second Country Western Dance of the season featuring the "Broken Spoke" band.

Free line dancing instruction by Tim Welesky will be offered from 8:00-9:00 p.m. prior to the dance. The event takes place on May 25th at the Springfield Turnverein from 8:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. The Turnverein is located at 176 Garden St., Agawam.

There will be plenty of refreshments on sale. This is one event you don't want to miss! Tickets may be obtained through Donna Shibley; call 786-3888.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

Mother's Day Special At CT Trolley Museum

Celebrate Mother's Day at the Connecticut Trolley Museum, 58 North Road, East Windsor, Ct. On Sunday, May 12th, from noon to 5:00 p.m., purchase a regular ticket for mom, and we will present her with a flower to help her celebrate her "very special day."

Regular admission prices are: \$6 adults, \$5 seniors (62-over); \$3 children five-12, and children under five are free with a paying adult.

Winners Announced In Agawam Federal Credit Union Raffle

At the 40th anniversary celebration of the Agawam Federal Credit Union on Saturday, May 4th, at Alexander's Restaurant in Feeding Hills, Irene Cavanaugh won the television set in the raffle, and Robert O. Fontaine won the VCR.

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Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, May 13th: Minestrone soup, grilled ham & cheese, broccoli salad, cantaloupe.

Tuesday, May 14th: Baked chicken leg, green beans, rye bread, birthday cake.

Wednesday, May 15th: Meatloaf w/gravy, baked potato, tossed salad, wheat bread, canned peaches.

Thursday, May 16th: Pork cutlet w/gravy, au gratin potatoes, bread, applesauce.

Friday, May 17th: Clam chowder, fish nuggets, baked beans, pumpernickel bread.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

Local Crafters To Be Featured At Upcoming Arts & Crafts Fair

Local artisans and crafters, as well as those from many neighboring communities and states, will be featured at the Agawam Junior Women's Club's 22nd Annual Arts & Crafts Festival, scheduled for Saturday, June 1st, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Local artisans and their crafts include Sharon Nai, candles and candle baskets; Hazel Mallory, stuffed animals; Paula Fox, handpainted wood items; Annmarie LaZozzera, wooden outdoor items; Doris Mank and Laura Coppola, sayings on chalkboards and magnets; Heidi Payeur, wood crafts; and the Agawam Community Artists with drawings, paintings, and jewelry.

The Festival will be held on the grounds of the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street in Agawam. The show will be juried and feature 80 to 100 exhibitors.

Admission is free, and all proceeds benefit the AJWC Scholarship Fund. Tours of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House will be available.

A Youth Art Exhibit will be on display as well. A few spaces for crafters remain. For more information or an application, call Margaret at 786-2651 or Patti at 786-6491.

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IN PHOTO LEFT, Megan Moreau is pictured with her grandparents, Ed & Bruna Morassi at the Agawam Senior Center's "Grandparents/Grandchildren's Day." IN PHOTO RIGHT, Grandparents Rita & Len Geddis are pictured with their grandchildren, Kristin and Angela Mercier. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Grandparents/Grandchildren Enjoy Big Day At Agawam Senior Center Event

"Grandparents/Grandchildren's Day" at the Agawam Senior Center proved to be a great success. This was a "first" for the Senior Center, and it showed signs of being the first of many to come.

The kitchen (as usual) did a great job with a menu that pleased all. The entertainment pleased all ages, and the pony rides were a big hit.

A special "thank you" goes out to Ed Popielarc-

zyk the magician, who is a wizard at balloon sculpture. An extra special "thank you" is extended to Len Blews (for donating his time and service for the kids) and his adorable and patient pony from Aspen Hill Farm on South West Street, Feeding Hills.

We are looking forward to next year during spring break to repeat "Grandparents/Grandchildren's Day" again. Mark your 1997 calendar!

Smorgasbord Supper At Agawam Legion On Tuesday, May 21

Chef Rick says, "Come support American Legion Post 185 Baseball of Agawam," at a Frank & Beans Smorg to be held Tuesday, May 21st from 5:00-8:00 p.m.

The menu includes tossed salad, macaroni salad, cold cuts, potato salad, and brown bread. Proceeds to go to the baseball team.

Cost for adults is \$6.95, \$3 for kids under 10, and \$4.95 for seniors (60 yrs. and over).

For tickets, call 786-4806.

Boy Scout Troop 78 Schedules Pancake Breakfast For May 19th

Boy Scout Troop 78 will be holding a pancake breakfast on Sunday, May 19th, from 7:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Springfield Turnverein on Garden Street.

Tickets will be sold at \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children. All proceeds from this breakfast will help the local troop pay for its summer trip to New Hampshire.

Tickets can be purchased in advance from any scout or at the door.

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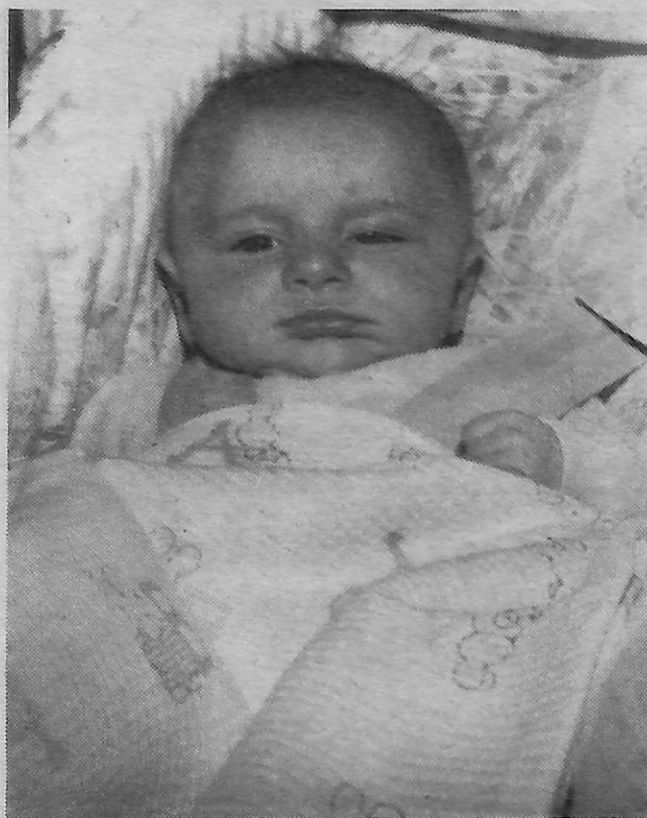
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TIMOTHY E. CONSEDINE

Consedine Family Announces Birth Of First Child, Timothy

Timothy and Kimberly Consedine of Agawam are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Timothy Edward Consedine.

He arrived at 7:48 p.m. on Sunday, February 25, 1996 at Baystate Medical Hospital and weighed seven pounds, eight ounces.

The baby is the first grandchild for proud grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Edward Drowns of Florida. He is the fifth grandchild of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Consedine of Agawam.

He is the first great-grandchild of Mr. Edward Drowns of Westfield.

Nicole Pajer Crowned Miss Southern Mass.; Qualifies For State's

Nicole Pajer, the daughter of Alfred Pajer and Sheila Kipp, has been crowned Miss Southern Massachusetts.

A 23 year-old senior at the University of Massachusetts, Nicole is an Honor Student with double degrees: a BS in Psychology and a BA in Dance Education. She will be continuing her education at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where she has been accepted as a Master's student in the Department of Education.

Nicole's platform is "Growth Through Educational Assessment and Testing." The platform revolves around a program run at the University that tests children's reading and math skills and assesses their performance according to their peers. The program is a rehabilitation program for those with below-average skills.

Nicole is also a member of both Golden Key and Psi Chi National Honor Society, a member of the University Dancers tour company, and a field analyst for an interactive intelligent math tutor.

On June 15th and 16th, she will be one of the 20 young women vying for the title of Miss Massachusetts and the opportunity to represent the state at the Miss America Scholarship Pageant held in Atlantic City in September.

Nicole was born in Agawam and is a graduate of Agawam High School. She loves to be involved with the community and is available for public appearances.



NICOLE PAJER

If there is an event or fundraiser you would like Nicole to attend or would like more information on Nicole's platform, please contact Delores Rabuffo at (508) 695-5831.

5-K Fun Walk For Epilepsy Awareness Slated For Sunday, May 19th

The first Annual Western Mass. 5K Fun Walk For Epilepsy Awareness will be held Sunday, May 19th.

The first 300 people with \$25 in donations will receive an Epilepsy Awareness T-Shirt. A hot air balloon ride will be awarded to the individual who raises the **MOST** money.

Stretch out with Fitness First instructors before

walking.

For more information and registration materials, contact Janet & Gary Shean (786-2709), Diane & Steve Penna (786-9284), Sue & Wayne Hearn (789-1529), Sue & Dean Shaw (569-0474), Kathy & Rich Karam (786-5426), or Kim & Rick Martel (786-1169).

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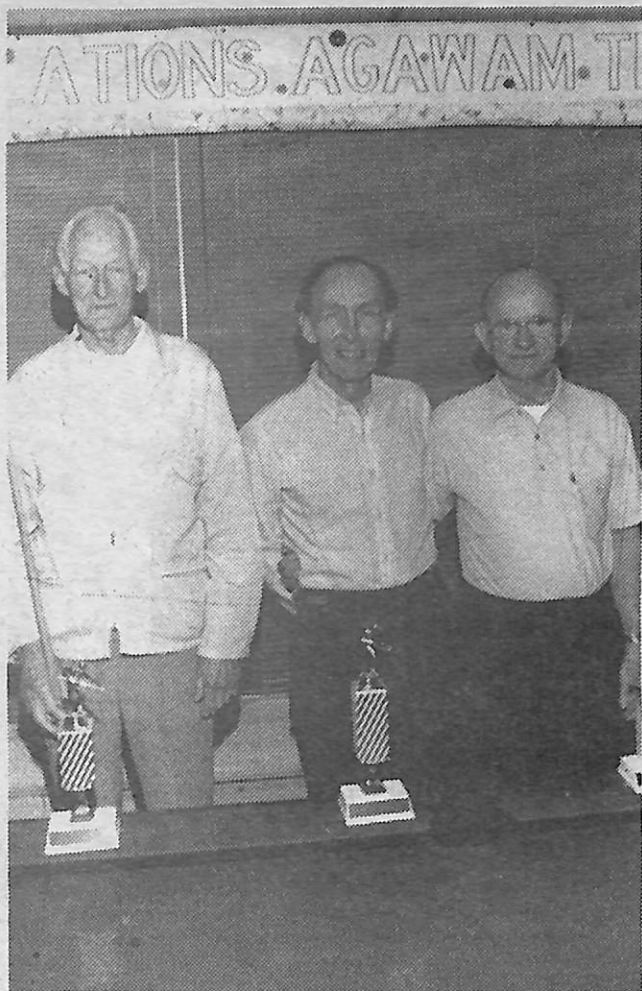
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Senior Center Proud Of Billiards Winners



THE ANNUAL BILLIARDS Tournament at the Agawam Senior Center produced the three gentlemen pictured above in the winner's circle - (from left) Bill Case, 1st runner-up; Norm Rinquette, king of the tables; and Bob Forrier, 2nd runner-up. IN PHOTO BELOW, John Balas (left) is the new treasurer of the Men's Pool Club, and Bill Case is a member of the Steering Committee. Congratulations to all for another great year at the tables. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Personalized Wedding Invitations All Occasion Invitations

Selections in the comfort of your home, at your convenience.

For an appointment, call...

413-786-7231 Gail Roberts



MR. & MRS. JAMES LAJEUNESSE

Grimaldi-Lajeunesse Nuptials Held At St. John's Church

Kristine Grimaldi and James Lajeunesse were recently united in marriage at St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam.

The bride is the daughter of Marie Brown of Agawam and Joseph Grimaldi, Jr. of Daytona Beach, Florida. Parents of the bridegroom are Edna and Joseph Lajeunesse of Westfield.

Amy Grimaldi attended her sister as maid-of-honor. David Fisk served the bridegroom as best man.

The bride graduated from Agawam High School and Holyoke Community College. She is employed as an Audit Reimbursement Information Analyst for Aetna Insurance Co. Her husband is a graduate of Westfield High School and is pursuing a degree in architecture. He is employed by Day Lumber, Westfield, as a supervisor.

The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia, W.I. and currently reside in West Springfield.



KELLY M. THERIAULT

Theriault Children Announce Birth Of Sister, Kelly Marie

Michael and Erin Marie Theriault are pleased to announce the birth of their sister, Kelly Marie.

Kelly Marie was born on April 9th and weighed eight pounds, 5½ ounces.

Kelly Marie is the daughter of Ann and Michael Theriault of Feeding Hills. The proud grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Edmond Theriault of Beverly, MA.

† AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION®
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Thursday
June 6
1996

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GOLF TOURNAMENT

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HONORARY CHAIRPERSON



Eileen Curran
Anchor/Reporter News 40

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LUNCH - 11:30 a.m. SCRAMBLE/SHOTGUN - 12:30 p.m. DINNER - 7:00 p.m.

- **PLAYER** - \$100.00 includes everything lunch, golf carts, prizes, photos, refreshments and dinner
- **TEE or GREEN SPONSOR** - \$100.00 includes attractive company sign and listing in the program book
- **SILVER SPONSOR** - \$250.00 2 Players & a Tee or Green sponsor
- **GOLD SPONSOR** - \$450.00 4 Players & a Tee or Green sponsor
- **ANY GIFT or CONTRIBUTION** to this tournament will help our cause
- **DINNER ONLY** - \$30.00

Sponsored by **BERTERA**
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Subaru, Dodge & Suzuki

**HOLE IN ONE PRIZE ON EACH PAR 3
INCLUDING - AUTOMOBILE ON 9TH HOLE**

EVERYTHING IS INCLUDED
GOLF • CART • LUNCH • DINNER • PRIZES
No Additional Charges

**Make Reservations Early • Maximum of
156 Golfers • Last Year We Sold Out Early!**

For More Information, call Ken Barnes, Nynex Yellow Pages 737-9904 or Mario Sakellis, American Lung Association at 737-3506

786-1127

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Alexander's

60 North Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA
786-1127

Featuring Fine Italian Cuisine

Mom Deserves The Best



So On
Mother's Day
Bring Her To

Alexander's Restaurant

Mother's Day, May 12th

Open From 12:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Reservations Now Being Accepted

786-1127

Mother's Day Specials

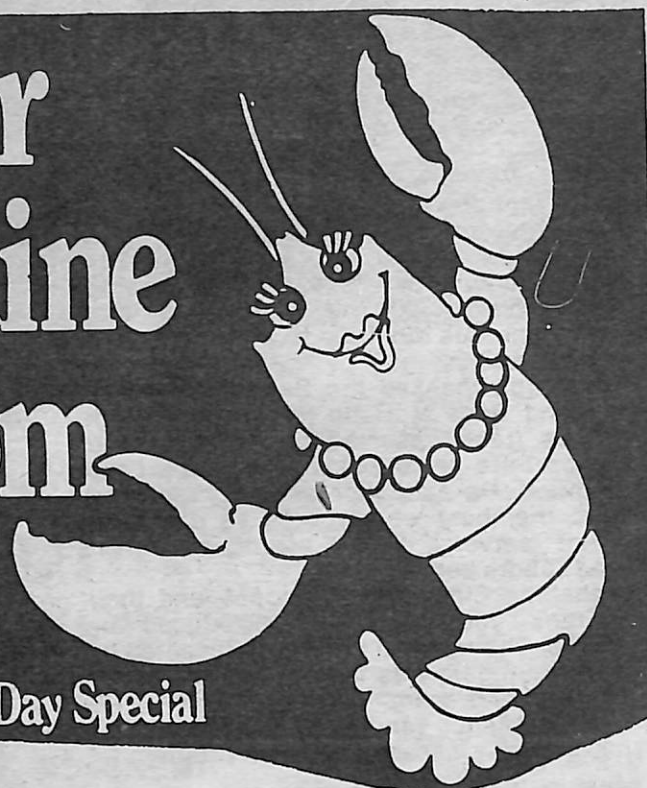
Complete Dinners

- * Chicken Francese
- * Zuppa De Pesce
- * Veal Marsala
- * Veal & Shrimp Romano
- * Baked Stuffed Scrod
- * Shrimp & Scallop Scampi Over Linguini
- * Baked Seafood Combo
- * Pork Tenderloin Picatta
- * Roast Boneless Pork Loin
- * Stuffed Jumbo Shrimp
- * Baked Italian Combo
- * Chicken Cipriani

Plus Most Items On Our Dinner Menu



Our Maine Mom



Mother's Day Special

**\$25.00 Gift Certificate Will
Be Given To A Lucky Mom.
Allow Us To Help You Treat
Her The Way She Deserves ...
Special**



Mother's Day

Prime Rib Dinner

Complete prime rib dinner includes your
choice of potato, our extraordinary
soup, salad, rolls & butter

\$12.95

Newly Elected Officers Installed For Golden Age Club, Chapter II

The Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter II, held its Installation Banquet on April 22nd at the Storowton Carriage House, West Springfield, with 141 seniors present.

Bright sunshine and mild spring temperatures greeted the festive event, which began at 11:00 a.m. with a social hour, followed by a delicious banquet at 12:00 noon.

President Louis Scherpa led the Club in a salute to the Flag, and Chaplain Leaneore Dion offered a brief prayer.

James and Ruth Birchall conducted the installation of the following Club officers:

President, Louis Scherpa; Vice-President, Edward Grimes; Recording Secretary, Rita Matys; Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Kupec; Treasurer, Ernest Swanson; and Chaplain, Leaneore Dion.

A standing ovation was given to Louis Scherpa during the installation for his years of dedicated service with his wife, Louise, since the Club's Chapter II was founded in September 1982. The Club has prospered under his leadership, growing to a membership of 300, with many active programs and numerous bus trips to interesting and attractive places.

Louis Scherpa thanked the Banquet Committee: Perry and Rose McCobb (ticket sales), Edward Grimes (table reservations), William and Alice Bishop (site selection), and Virginia Lake (entertainment). He also expressed appreciation to all Club members who worked as directors, refreshment servers, travel arrangers, cheer givers, and fundraisers.

The Sunshine Singers of Chicopee and their leader, Frank Jackson, were introduced by Virginia Lake. The musical program presented by the Sunshine Singers was fantastic and enjoyed by all the seniors present.

The entire audience sang "God Bless America" in closing a most pleasant afternoon program.



NEW OFFICERS OF THE AGAWAM GOLDEN AGE CLUB (Chapter II) were installed at the Storowton Carriage House. From left - Louis Scherpa, president; Edward Grimes, vice-president; Ernest Swanson, treasurer; Rita Matys, recording secretary; and Lenore Dion, chaplain. Missing from photo was Barbara Kupec, corresponding secretary. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

High-Impact Drama At. Bethany Assembly

The high-impact drama, *Heaven's Gates And Hell's Flames*, will be presented at Bethany Assembly of God in Agawam on Sunday, May 19th, at 6:00 p.m., and Monday and Tuesday, May 20th and 21st, at 7:00 p.m.

With a cast of over 40, *Heaven's Gates And Hell's Flames* has impacted cities throughout the United States and Canada, and now comes to the Pioneer Valley.

Admission is free for the three presentations of *Heaven's Gates And Hell's Flames*. There will be a nursery provided for infants, and there will be signing for the deaf in all presentations.

Bethany Assembly of God is located at the corner of Route 57 and Main Street in Agawam. For more information, call the church office at 789-2930.



HELPING TO OFFICIATE the Annual Agawam Golden Age Club Chapter II Installation Banquet included, from left - Rose and Perry McCobb, tickets sales; Virginia Lake, program chairwoman; Ruth Birchall, marshal; and Jim Birchall, installing officer. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

All the local news with us.

Anniversary Party Thursday, May 16th Olde Towne Bagel

— Not Just Bagels —
719 Main Street, Agawam Center

Our 1-Year Anniversary Party Includes:

- Hot Dogs — 2 For 99¢
- Original Coca-Cola — 49¢ A Bottle
- Antique Car Show
- Free Drawings And DJ
- Food — Free Gifts For Kids
- Clowns And More

Feeding Hills Residents...
Show Us Your Address And Receive
Additional 15% OFF

You Can Win the War On Weight

Discover how to turn up your metabolism & shut down fat storage with 22 News' Nutritionist **Nancy Dell, RD.** Then learn how to get motivated & stay motivated with Behavior Therapist **Deb Papagno.**



Monday, May 20, 6:30 - 9:30 PM
Ramada Inn, West Springfield

To register call 413-786-2957.

Registration fee just \$29.

Senior Center Recognizes Volunteers



THE AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER recently held a Volunteer Recognition Banquet. Pictured, from left - Deputy Director Valina Carpenter, State Rep. Daniel F. Keenan, Ronnie Kruse, Shirley Attardi, State Senator Linda Melconian, and Bernice Evans. IN PHOTO RIGHT - Frank Gatti, Frances Smith, Priscilla Magagnoli, Charles Keohane, Violet Presz, and Janice Bonk. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

NO ONE covers all the hometown news like us, each week. If you wish to be a subscriber, please call us right away.

St. Anne's Country Club

Shoemaker Lane - Feeding Hills

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Banquet Facility Now Open

Our Picturesque Banquet Room
Overlooking the Pioneer Valley Holds
Up to 200 People

Exclusively With

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- Funerals

Off-Premises Catering Also A Specialty

Garden Weddings And Parties
Anniversaries * First Communions
Birthday Parties
Baby And Wedding Showers

Sale Thru
May 16, 1996

Mitch's GARDENS

LAWN & GARDEN
FLORIST! GREENHOUSE!

1265 Suffield Street, Rt. 75, Agawam

Tel. 789-2400

MON.-FRI. 9-8 SAT. & SUN. 9-6
Gift Certificates Available

SEED GERANIUMS

\$1.99 4 In.

Or **\$19.99** Doz.

Large Zonal 4 1/2" **\$2.99**

BAGGED GOODS SALE MITCH'S Professional

LAWN FOOD

25-7-11

BUY ONE!

\$13.99 5,000 Sq. Ft.

GET ONE FREE!

DECORATIVE MULCH 3 Cu. Ft.

- Pine Mini Nuggets
- Pine Nuggets
- Pine Mulch
- Cedar Mulch

\$4.99

Ea.

3 For **\$11.99**

Landscape Fabric (3' x 50')
\$11.99

TOP SOIL

\$1.99 Ea. 40 Lb.

Or 3 For **\$4.99**

DIAZINON

Say Good-Bye To Grubs

\$7.99 5,000 Sq. Ft.

MARBLE CHIPS

3 For **\$10.00**

Or **\$3.99** Ea.

Many Colors Available

LIME PELLETS Or **\$3.99**
3 For **\$9.99** Ea.

MOTHER'S DAY

SUPER SALE!

FLOWERING HANGING BASKETS

\$8.99 8 In.

2 For **\$15.00**

Long Stem
Roses
\$11.99 Doz.

1000's
IN STOCK

ROSE BUSHES

Bloom All Summer

- Hybrid • Tea
- Floribunda
- Climbers

\$7.99

Patented
Varieties **\$10.99**

FLOWERING ANNUALS

- Allysum • Marigolds
- Impatiens • Petunias
- Pansies • Many More

\$1.69 6 Pack

\$11.99 (Tray Of 48)

PERENNIALS

- Flowers That Bloom Year After Year
- Varieties For Both Sun & Shade

\$1.99 4 In.

Or 3 For **\$3.99**

JUNIPERS

1 Gal. **\$5.99**

Or 3 For **\$14.99**

ARBORVITAES

The Evergreen Fence

3 Ft. **\$17.99** Ea.

Or 10 For **\$169.99**

4 Ft. **\$19.99** Ea.

Or 10 For **\$199.99**

FLOWERING TREES

White Dogwoods

5-6' **\$49.99**

Pink Dogwoods

5-6' **\$59.99**

6-8' Purple Plum **\$69.00**

6-8' Red Bud **\$69.00**

AZALEAS

Red - White -

Pink - Purple

2 Gal

12-15"

\$14.99

Or 2 For **\$24.99**

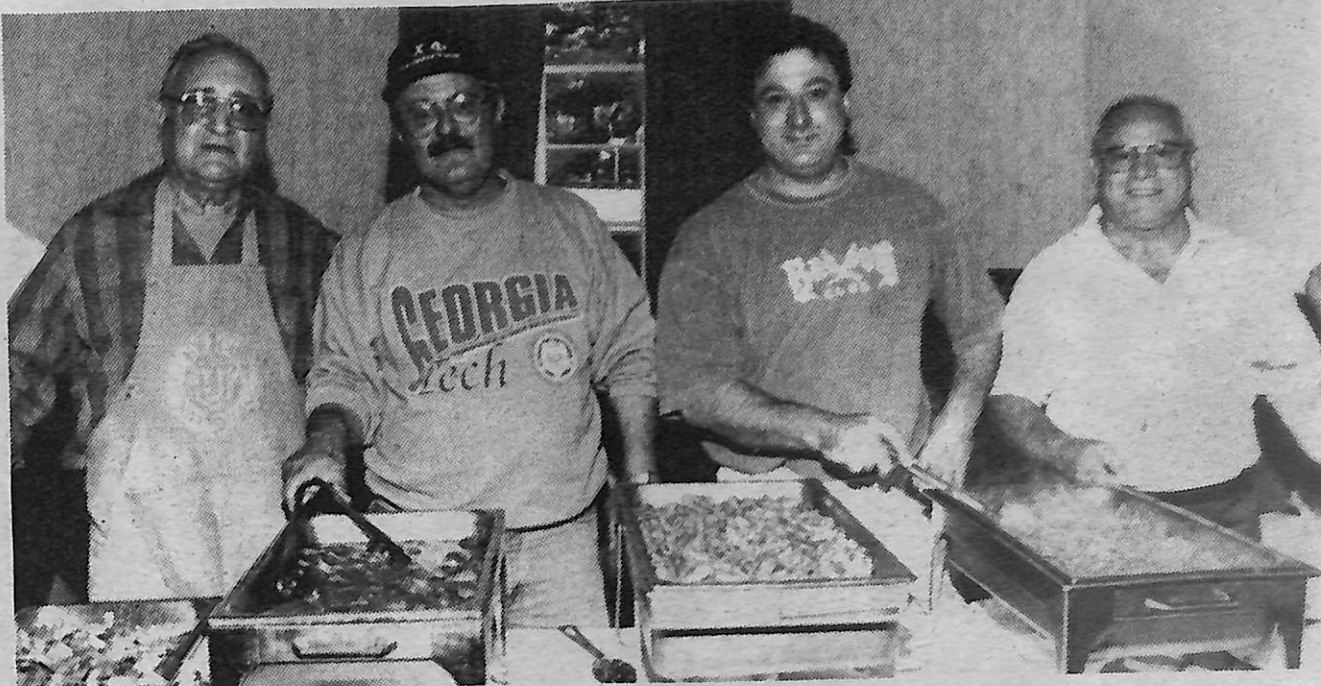
CASUAL LIVING FURNITURE

TABLE &
4 CHAIRS

Save!
40%

\$349.99 And Up

Agawam UNICO Holds Annual Macaroni Dinner



AGAWAM UNICO held its Annual Macaroni Supper at the Italian Sporting Club on April 21st. From left - UNICO members Bill Mezzetti, Dick Pisano, and Ron Lalancette were responsible for making the salad; IN PHOTO RIGHT, Al D'Agostino, Al DeMastrie, Frank Morassi, and Sal Morassi were on the serving line. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



ENJOYING THEIR MACARONI dinners courtesy of Agawam UNICO included (top photo) Mary Scherpa and Edith Bongiovanni. IN THE PHOTOS BELOW, Vincent Graziano is happy to get his picture taken with his older sister, Maria, doesn't appear too pleased. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



AGAWAM UNICO WIVES, from left - Dorothy Marchetto, Judy DiLullo, and Marge Disco helped at the club's Annual Macaroni Supper at the Italian Sporting Club. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Candle Sale

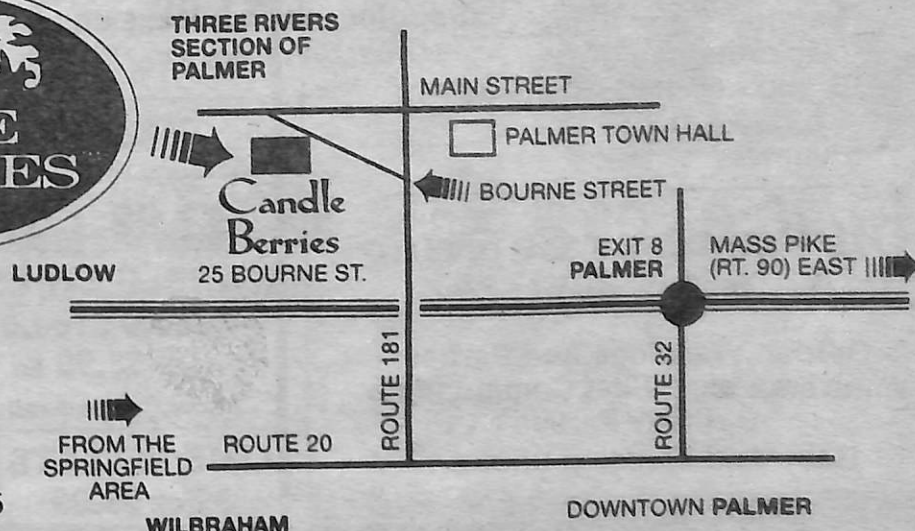
	Regular Price	Sale Price
Votives 15-20 hour burn time9065
10 oz. Jar 65-75 hour burn time	10.95 6.95
16 oz. Jar 100-110 hour burn time ..	11.95 7.95
26 oz. Jar 150-160 hour burn time ..	13.95 9.25

Due to an overwhelming response, our annual candle sale has been extended through the month of May! Our hand poured, richly scented candles are made right on the premises and are available in over 36 delicious scents. Compare our prices with a 26 ounce jar selling elsewhere at \$18.50, now just \$9.25!

That's half-price! Stock up now and save!



25 BOURNE STREET
THREE RIVERS
(413) 283-4103
MONDAY THRU
SATURDAY - 10 TO 5
SUNDAY - NOON TO 5



Riverside

Please Excuse Us, Agawam,
But The Runners Are Runnin'



Sunday, May 19th

RUN WITH RICKY

KIDS' FUN RUN At 1:00 P.M.

A 30 yard 440 yard run (based upon child's age)
around the oval speedway track.

DIVISIONS: KIDS

2 & under — 30 Yds.
3-4 — 50 Yds.
5-6 — 110 Yds.
7-8 — 220 Yds.
9-10 — 220 Yds.
11-12 — 220 Yds.
13-14 — 440 Yds.

separate races for boys & girls

AWARDS:

Boys' and girls' prizes will be:
1st place — Bicycle
2nd place — Radio
3rd place — Sports Equipment

RIVERSIDE SPECIAL: KIDS (up to age 14)

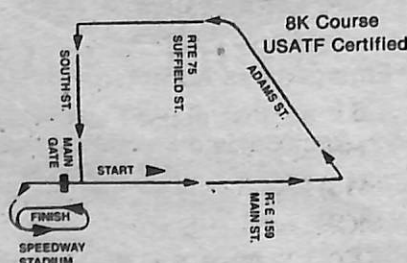
For the \$11.00 entry fee all runners will receive FREE Park Admission and FREE entry to all rides and attractions and two FREE Bonus Badge tickets for their parents or guests.

RIBBONS AND T-SHIRTS:

As a memento of the special kids race, ribbons commemorating participation will be given to each runner finishing their event. T-Shirts will be given to the first 1000 kids entered. All finishers in the 2-and-under division will also receive a stuffed animal.

New England 8K Championship
7:00 PM

An 8K road race through Agawam, starting at the main gate and finishing in the stadium. Flat course - perfect for a personal record. No bicycle escort. For more information, please call Donna, (413) 786-9300, ext. 3203. Cash prizes; entry fee, \$15.00; T-Shirts to the first 800 participants entered.



USA Track & Field
New England 8K
Championship
And
KIDS' FUN RUN



Riverside

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Last Name

First Name

Address (include apartment no.)

City/Town

State

Zip Code

Fun Run

Age

Sex

8K

Wheel Chair

Team Competition (8K only)

USATF No.

Club No.

Team Affiliation

For good and valuable consideration, including PARTICIPANT being permitted to participate in the Twilight 8K ("EVENT") to be held on May 19, 1996 at Riverside Park, I, the undersigned participant ("Participant"), for myself, my successors, heirs, assigns, executors and administrators forever release and discharge Anheuser-Busch, Incorporated, its wholesalers, Riverside Park Enterprises, USATF-NE, and all its representatives, Sheriff's Track Club and Coca-Cola Company, all sponsors of the EVENT (Hereinafter individually and collectively in all combinations referred to as "BUSCH") from all claims, causes of action, costs and judgments that I now or hereafter may have or claim to have against BUSCH for personal injuries, including death, and damages to property, real or personal caused by or arising out of PARTICIPANT'S involvement in the EVENT.

I further agree to and do hereby assume any and all risks of personal injuries to PARTICIPANT, including death, and damages to PARTICIPANT'S property, real or personal, caused by or arising out of PARTICIPANT'S involvement in the EVENT.

I further agree for myself, my successors, heirs, assigns, executors and administrators to indemnify and hold BUSCH harmless from all claims and suits for personal injuries, including death, and damages to property, real or personal, caused by PARTICIPANT'S act or omission and arising out of PARTICIPANT'S involvement in the EVENT, and from all judgments and costs recovered in said claims and suits and from all expenses incurred in defending said claims or suits.

I further agree that PARTICIPANT'S photographs, pictures, slides and movies taken or made by BUSCH in connection with PARTICIPANT'S involvement in the EVENT, or any reproduction of the same, as well as PARTICIPANT'S name, and in any manner be used by BUSCH, or by any person, corporation, partnership or association authorized by BUSCH.

I warrant that PARTICIPANT is in good health and has no physical condition that would prevent PARTICIPANT from participating in the EVENT.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE FOREGOING RELEASE AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY.

Signature of parent or guardian if under 18 • PROOF OF AGE IS REQUIRED

Church News

Sacred Heart Getting Ready For Huge 50th Celebration

by Peggy Shoemaker
Advertiser News Feature Writer

More than 2,000 invitations have been mailed to the families and individual members of Sacred Heart Church, Feeding Hills, inviting them to the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of their parish. A large red and gold sign announcing "Sacred Heart Church, 1946-1996" has been raised over the front door of the church.

Two major events will highlight the celebration. There will be a Pontifical Celebration Mass at 3:00 p.m. on May 19th with the Most Rev. Thomas L. Dupre, D.D., Bishop of Springfield, as principal celebrant.

A reception and dinner-dance will follow the same evening at Chez Josef's Banquet House in Agawam.

The invitations, printed in red ink with gold and red seals, include a reservation form for the dinner-dance to be returned to the Rectory. There will be tables of eight or 10.

Features of the reception dinner-dance will be music by a disc jockey and a memorabilia exhibit. Parishioners are urged to loan photos or appropriate articles for the display by leaving them at the Rectory.

The second event of the celebration will be a Mass at 4:00 p.m. on June 15th celebrated by the Rev. Kenneth Tatro, pastor. A family-type picnic will follow on the acreage behind the church, without charge. Hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, races, and games will be the order of the event. Those attending are asked to bring folding chairs. In the event of rain, the picnic will be held in the parish center and the church.

Six priests who have been pastors of Sacred Heart Church will try to con-celebrate the May 19th Mass with the Bishop. In addition to Father Tatro, they include Rev. Leonard Della Badia, CSS; Rev. Joseph Flood, CSS; Rev. Camillo Santini, CSS; Rev. David Joyce. Curates who served the church are Father Paul Burns, CSS and Father James Shea, CSS, and the late Rev. George Lindsay.

Also invited were the Rev. William Hamilton, secretary to the Bishop; Deacon James Martone of Sacred Heart Church; the Stigmatine Provincial, the Rev. Robert White; and priests and brothers of the Stigmatine Order in Waltham, MA.

Special invitations also went to the Rev. Joseph McGuire, retired Bishop of Springfield; Rev. Albert Breton, pastor of St. Theresa's Church and St. Anthony's Church, Agawam; Rev. Howard McCormick, pastor, and the Rev. John Scheaffer, parochial vicar at St. John's Church, Agawam; Sister Constant Quinlin, president, and Sister Mary Quinn, vice president of the Sisters of St. Joseph; Sister Francis White, SSJ, pastoral minister at St. John's; and Sister Eileen Sullivan, SSJ.

Several souvenir items have been prepared for the observance, including white trivets (with a sketch in red of the church). They can be used under hot plates or hung on a wall. A souvenir

Sacred Heart Church's Events & Activities

PARISHIONERS—Any registered parishioner who (for whatever the reason) is no longer receiving envelopes, please notify Mary Ann Govoni at the rectory **Monday through Thursday** between **5:00 and 8:00 p.m.**

If you have envelopes, please use them, as it may be difficult to give you proper credit without your envelope number.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

BAPTISM—Please welcome into our parish family the newly baptized:

Gabrielle Marie Mirilli, Jordan Parker Balise, Ashlie Marie Sheehan, Mia Alicia Sgueglia, Ashley Danielle Peters, and Kristen Marie Collins. Congratulations to their parents and families.

TIME OUT!!! Work, kids, laundry, meals, dishes, taxi driver, yard work ... our daily lives are demanding!

Ever feel overwhelmed? How about disillusioned or in a rut? Is there something wrong with this picture?

Call a "TIME OUT" ... take a weekend to focus on you, your partner in marriage, and your spiritual well-being.

The next **Marriage Encounter Weekend** at Sacred Heart House in Easthampton, MA, from May 17th-19th, can help you find a fresh perspective.

For more information, call Steve & Char Houghton at 774-5942, or Paul & Sue Plourd at 527-7717.



BUSY MAKING PLANS for the upcoming 50th Anniversary Celebration of Sacred Heart Church include, back row, from left - Jim Griffin, Gail Brunelle, Joseph Dupelle, and Father Kenneth Tatro, pastor. Front row - Mary Zubi, Sister Eileen Sullivan, and Sheila Gorman.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

brochure is being prepared for publication. It will include a photo of the present Sacred Heart staff and a detailed history of the parish.

The history outlines the social, religious, and physical growth of the church, paying tribute to all who took part. It lists organizations from choir to scouts to recreational athletics.

Significant dates in the history are:

1926: The church was started when a portable chapel was moved from St. Anthony's, North Agawam, to William Street, Feeding Hills. A Mission Chapel of Mt. Carmel, Springfield, it was served by the Stigmatine Fathers on Sundays and Holydays.

1944: Father Ferrari was placed in charge of the church.

1946: Bishop Thomas O'Leary declared a territorial parish of Sacred Heart and Father Della Badia was named first pastor.

1948: Property on Springfield Street at Poplar was purchased.

1956: Father Lindsay was named second pastor and a variety of activities were held to raise funds for church building construction.

1958: Groundbreaking for the church.

1959: Sacred Heart Church was completed and dedicated.

1967: Adjoining property was purchased for rectory.

1970: Parish Center was built and dedicated a year later.

1972: Father Flood was named third pastor, and Father Burns, his assistant, organized the parish library and Adult Bible Classes.

1985: Rev. Santini became the fourth pastor, and it was decided to change Sacred Heart from the Stigmatine Community to the Springfield Diocese.

1987: The Parish was transferred to the Springfield Diocese and Father Joyce was named fifth pastor.

1989: Father Tatro assumed assistant pastorate of the parish.

1990: The first permanent deacon, James Martone, was assigned.

1992: Father Tatro became the sixth pastor, and Sister Sullivan became the first pastoral minister.

The 50th Anniversary Committee, in addition to Father Tatro and Sister Sullivan, consists of parishioners Gail Brunelle, Joseph Dupelle, Sheila Gorman, James Griffin, and Mary Zu'Bi.

Commending the committee on its work, Sister Sullivan said members have worked hard to make the event all-inclusive, a meaningful and joyful celebration for parishioners of all ages.

Drs. Joseph M. & Katherine S. Schlaffer



Schlaffer Chiropractic

• Complete Family Chiropractic Care

• X-Ray Facility With Low Exposure Rare Earth System

• Emergencies Accepted

• Worker's Compensation, Auto Accident, City of Springfield and Western Mass. Preferred Plus, Health New England, Consolidated Health Plan, Connecticut And Massachusetts Blue Cross/Blue Shield, And Other Insurances Accepted.

• Evenings And Saturday Appointments Available

192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

For An Appointment—Call 789-1369 Or 789-1073

Serving The Agawam Area For 15 Years

Church News - continued...



BETSY COWAN

Betsy Cowan Heading For Polish Mission

A fundraiser will be held at the Rollaway on Main Street in Agawam on May 19th from 5:15 to 7:15 p.m. to benefit Betsy Cowan. Donation is \$4 per person.

Betsy Cowan, teenage daughter of The Reverend Len and Hallie Cowan of Agawam has volunteered to be a short-term missionary with the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship this summer. She will be traveling to Poland to provide child care for a staff member. The staff will be involved in a lingua-cultural exchange with 25 Polish college students. Betsy is responsible for raising the \$3,000 necessary for her trip abroad.

She will travel to Warsaw for a week of orientation and then on to a student hostel in the Southeast resort town of Wisla for three weeks and end with a week serving on a Habitat for Humanity project. While in Wisla, she will have an opportunity to attend many of the classes where the Polish will be teaching their language and culture to the Americans and the Americans will be teaching our language, culture, and Christianity to the Polish. After being so long under Communist rule, the Polish people are very anxious to learn the teachings of the Bible and the American way of life.

Please join us at the Rollaway on May 19th. Tickets are available at the door, or by calling Pat and Rich Wheway at 786-8611. Donations in lieu of attending may be made to St. David's Episcopal Church, Springfield St., Agawam, MA 01001.

Emma Cross Receives Special Recognition At Worship Service At First Baptist Church

Emma Cross received special recognition at a recent service of worship at First Baptist Church for her faithfulness in service "above and beyond" the call over a period of many years.

This award is presented annually by the Board of Deacons to a member who has given the church an extra measure of dedication and service.

On this coming Sunday morning, May 12th, at the 9:30 a.m. worship at First Baptist Church, Pastor Richard Barnes will speak on "Them?!", with biblical text from Acts 10: 44-48.

Following worship, classes will be available for all ages. Coffee and conversation will be held in Davis Hall. The Caring Connection will be selling Mother's Day carnations during the social hour.

Nursery care is always available during the morning.

At 7:00 p.m., the youth will celebrate "Bring Your Mom Night." Mike Socia will speak about the Baptist summer camps at Grotonwood, Massachusetts, and Oceanwood, Maine.

On Wednesday, May 15th, "Captive Free," a

'Fair On The Lawn' By West Side Church

The First Congregational Church of West Springfield will hold a "FAIR ON THE LAWN" to raise money for their upcoming 300th Anniversary Celebration.

This event will take place on Saturday, May 11th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (rain or shine) on the front lawn of the church, located at Park and Lathrop Streets.

The sale will consist of a variety of tea brands, chocolate chip cookies, selected handmade items, and other surprises. All baked goods are "made from scratch."

Weekly Calendar From Agawam Congregational

A CAR WASH sponsored by the Jr. High Youth Group will be held on Saturday, May 11, 1996, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The cost of the car wash is a \$3 donation to the Church Youth Fund of Agawam Congregational Church.

Worship service continues at 10:30 a.m. this Sunday at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

This Sunday, May 12th, is the sixth Sunday of Easter. Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "The Nurturing Love" (Text Exodus 2:1-10). The Children's Message will be "What Do They Do For You?"

This is Mother's Day, and the service will be a special service honoring all mothers and women. Every woman will receive a flower as they leave the Worship Service.

The "Faith In Action" series for the ninth grade class continues this week.

This Sunday, May 12th, there will be a guest speaker from AA/NA. On May 19th, a police officer from the Agawam area will be the speaker.

The last night for Country Line Dancing will be this Friday, May 10th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. "Millie and the Gang" will teach you all the new dance steps. Join in the fun, put your dancing shoes on, and stop by.

The cost is \$5 at the door. Refreshments are available, and child care is provided for an extra fee.

The Sixth Annual 18 Hole Golf Tournament—The Charlie McCobb Memorial Golf Tournament—will be held on Saturday, June 1, 1996, at St. Anne's Country Club, Feeding Hills.

There will be prizes, prizes, and more prizes for the winners. All golfers are welcome: men, women, seniors, and juniors. The entry fee is \$25 (greens fee, snack, beverage), and carts are available.

For tee times, call Tom Erskine, 786-4783, or Austin Woodard, 786-1675. Call the church office, 786-7111, if you would like to sponsor a hole or place an ad or be a patron.

A roast pork dinner will be held on Saturday, May 19th, at 6:00 p.m. The menu will include: roast pork, applesauce, fresh veggies, potato, rolls, dessert, coffee, tea, or milk.

Adults are \$7; children 12 and under, \$4. Call Jerry Hamel, 786-2908, or the church office, 786-7111, to reserve your seat.

Reservations close Thursday, May 16th.

Christian ministry band touring the United States, will present a 7:00 p.m. concert at Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church in Springfield.

This will be preceded by a pot luck supper at 6:00 p.m. Try not to miss this event!

Also on our calendar this week:

Monday, May 13th: 7:30 p.m., Social Action Committee.

Tuesday, May 14th: 10:00 a.m., Searchlights Circle meets at the home of Phyllis Catchepaugh; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., Women's Fellowship Annual Meeting.

Wednesday, May 15th: 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open; 7:00 p.m., Bible Study (Parlor).

Thursday, May 16th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

On Sunday, June 2nd, our church will have its first annual planning retreat to be held at Church in the Acres (Baptist), Springfield.

The event will start at 1:00 p.m. and be completed at 6:30 p.m. Plan to be a part of this special event in the life of our Church.

Roast Beef Supper Slated At Agawam Methodist Church

Agawam Methodist Church will be holding a roast beef supper on May 18th at 5:30 p.m. All proceeds will go for a new dishwasher.

For reservations, call Dana Henry at 789-0684.

Check our classified

News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Adult Bible Literacy class begins at 9:00 a.m., as does Sunday School for children.

This Sunday, May 12th, is Laity Sunday. The 10:00 a.m. worship service will be led by members of the congregation. Children are welcome to join their parents in worship.

Younger children may leave at the appointed time to work on a special activity with the Youth Director, Patsy Traficante. Nursery care will be provided as usual.

The Youth Group will serve its monthly Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, May 11th, from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Cooking and clean-up is included in the \$2 price of the breakfast, so why not treat Mom to a delicious breakfast for Mother's Day?

Crossroads Christian Fellowship will continue to meet in our church sanctuary each Sunday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 12th, is Open Pantry Sunday. We will have our monthly collection for the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. Bags of groceries and articles of clean, usable clothing are needed.

Please bring your items to the Open Pantry table in the sanctuary. If you are unable to donate a bag of groceries, envelopes will be available in the sanctuary on the Open Pantry collection table for cash donations.

The Restructural/Reorganizational Work Group will meet at the church on Tuesday, May 14th, at 7:00 p.m.

The Board of Christian Education is looking for donations of 64-ounce plastic juice bottles to be used for a project during Vacation Bible School. Please bring your bottles to the church or call the office to have them picked up.

Please remember that the deadline to submit information to the church newsletter is May 14th.

On the calendar this week:

Saturday, May 11th: 8:30 to 11:00 a.m., Pancake Breakfast.

Sunday, May 12th: 9:00 a.m., Sunday School/Adult Bible Literacy; 10:00 a.m., Open Pantry Sunday; 11:30 a.m., Christian Ed meeting; 5:00 p.m., Crossroads Christian Fellowship meeting.

Monday, May 13th: 5:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Trustees.

Tuesday, May 14th: Informer deadline; 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Stewardship/Missions meeting.

Wednesday, May 15th: 2:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Music Committee meeting; 7:00 p.m., Choir; 7:45 p.m., Cub Scouts Committee.

Friday, May 17th: Rev. Donaldson's day off; OF tag sale set up.

Saturday, May 18th: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., OF tag sale.

Events Calendar From St. David's Church

JOIN THE PEOPLE OF ST. DAVID'S CHURCH AS THEY CELEBRATE Mother's Day in worship services this weekend, May 11th and 12th.

The church offers a quiet, contemporary service at 5:00 p.m., and a dignified, traditional service on Sunday at 8:00 a.m., both held at the church building, 522 Springfield Street in Feeding Hills.

The exuberant renewal service at 10:00 a.m. is held at the Agawam Middle School, and features children's Sunday School for grades Pre-K through 8. There is also nursery care and interpretation for the deaf.

This week's message will look at the teaching ministry of the Lord and His Church, in the light of how mothers are our first teachers.

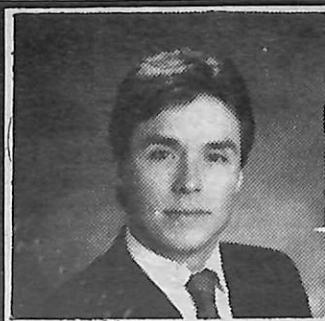
THE KIDS-4-CHRIST YOUTH GROUP, which meets monthly for those in grades K-4, will be planting flowers on the church grounds this Saturday, May 11th, at 1:00 p.m. Parents are encouraged to attend with their children. For further information, contact the Church Office at 786-6133.

BENEFIT TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE FOR:

—A Gospel Concert to support the Victory Church, now meeting at St. David's Sundays at 11:00 a.m., and hoping to purchase the St. David's Building. The Concert will be held Sunday, May 19th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Stop by the Church Building Sundays for Worship at 11:00 a.m., or at 2:30 p.m. for ticket sales, or call 734-4001.

—An Open Skate to support Betsy Cowan's Mission Trip to Poland this summer will be held at the Agawam Rollaway on Sunday, May 19th, from 5:15 to 7:15 p.m. Contact the Church Office at 786-6133 for further information.

For Your Health



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph
S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

The 'Premise' Of Chiropractic

QUESTION: The federal government's Agency for Health Care Policy and Research has recommended spinal manipulation for back pain. I note that my managed health care plan covers chiropractic services.

Since I'm contemplating seeing a doctor of chiropractic for the first time, would you briefly explain the premise of chiropractic?

ANSWER: When chiropractic was first introduced to the world in 1895, it involved a different approach to the problems of health. It provided a necessary alternative to a medical care system that was concerned with treating the sick with a variety of powders, pills, potions, and surgery to restore health.

Medical experts and their patients noted that many of the medications prescribed were treating the effect, not the cause of the problem. Drugs were masking the symptoms/pain, not correcting the reasons for them.

Chiropractic relies upon inborn recuperative powers that allow health to be expressed naturally. Chiropractic recognizes that it is normal for the human body to function properly and, as a result, express good health.

With a thorough knowledge of human anatomy and physiology, it is clear that the nerve system (brain, spinal cord, and attaching nerves) is responsible for normal function of all systems, organs, and tissues.

By keeping this nerve system working properly, good health can be realized naturally. The spinal column (or backbone) must be cared for to insure proper function of the nerve system.

This is just what doctors of chiropractic are well-trained to do. By making adjustments (a specific form of manipulation) to the spine, the nerves exiting from the spine are allowed to function without interference. A chiropractor examines and may use x-rays that will provide the information for proper treatment.

The conditions which doctors of chiropractic treat can be as varied as the nerve system itself.

If chiropractic had not been different in its approach to health care, the profession would not have continued to expand and flourish into the largest drugless health care profession in the world.

The difference in chiropractic's clinical approach has restored good health to millions of people, many times after other methods have failed.

The **Schlaffer Chiropractic Office** is located at 192 Shoemaker Lane. Call 789-1369 or 789-1073 for appointments.

Living Well...

Preventing Osteoporosis - Part II

by Barb Vinciguerra, MS
Assistant General Manager
Fitness First Health and Fitness Center

Osteoporosis, as was discussed in my article last week, is a disease that afflicts over 25 million people in the United States, most of them women. It is estimated that approximately one-third of all women experience osteoporosis-related fractures in their lifetime. That translates into 1.5 million fractures a year.

Between 12 and 20 percent of all older adults who suffer hip fractures may eventually die from fracture-related complications. As we move into our older years (80's and 90's), osteoporosis becomes the rule, not the exception for both men and women.

As I mentioned in last week's article, there are many lifestyle factors that one can engage in to help decrease their likelihood of suffering from this debilitating disease.

Some factors that help with bone maintenance include: hormone replacement therapy, dietary calcium intake, thiazide diuretics, and physical activity. Some factors associated with bone loss include: early menopause, hyperthyroidism, excessive alcohol consumption, cigarette smoking, high sodium intake (which may lead to calcium depletion), and an extremely sedentary lifestyle.

As you can see, there are some factors which you can not change, but there are many that you do have control of. So look to change the things you can, and seek expert advice with regard to the factors you can not change.

If you are interested in learning more about osteoporosis, come to the "Osteoporosis Seminar" being held at Fitness First on Wednesday, May 15th, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. or 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Information will include the varying of bone density in men and women at different ages; how bone loss can be prevented; what are the prescribed therapies for osteoporosis; the importance of a nutritious diet; and developing a plan for fracture prevention.

Call Fitness First at 786-1406 to register.

Cancer Support Group At Providence Hosp.

Persons with cancer will find information and fellowship at the weekly meetings of Providence Hospital's Cancer Support Group.

The sessions will meet on the next two Mondays, May 13th and 20th, at 7:00 p.m. in the hospital auditorium; there will be no meeting on Monday, May 27th, due to the Memorial Day holiday.

The free group is facilitated by Providence Hospital chaplain, Sr. Madeleine Joy, S.P., and is open to patients, their families, and friends.

For more information, call (413) 536-5111.



Chiropractic Care by

Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

"Protect Your Back"!!!

Recently, I participated in a "Protect Your Back" injury prevention program sponsored by the American Red Cross and the American Chiropractic Association.

Being a certified "Protect Your Back" instructor, I am trained to teach a Protect Your Back course to area businesses and industry. Some of the content covered in the two, 2½, or four-hour course includes: understanding back injury, knowing your anatomy, avoiding risks, ergonomics, proper lifting and moving skills and exercise. The course was designed to prevent back injuries by learning proper procedures and exercises.

One lifting technique that was very helpful was the Golfer's Lift. This lift was suggested to be used when picking up lightweight objects, like a golfer lifting a ball.

1. Face the object.
2. Brace one hand on your knee or work surface to help offset the weight of the load and help in stabilizing your body.
3. Tighten your stomach muscles and bend at the hip, not at the waist, lifting the opposite leg up and out behind you.
4. Pick up the object.
5. Pull your leg down and tighten your stomach muscles to power yourself to a standing position.

The golfer's lift will help maintain the natural curves in your back when you pick up light objects. In fact, one chiropractor in the group stated he has been using this lift himself the past year and has noticed a big difference in his own back!

This lift is just one of the helpful techniques that is taught in the "Protect Your Back" course. If you would like more information regarding this informative course, please contact our office.

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. She is available to answer questions on Monday and Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at 786-4820.

Mercy Hospital Has Cancer Support

Persons with cancer, their families, and friends are invited to take part in Mercy Hospital's new Cancer Support Group. Meetings are conducted on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Women's Pavilion, 299 Carew Street, Springfield.

The group offers information on topics of interest to cancer patients, and an opportunity to share experiences in a warm, supportive atmosphere.

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On The Road To The Big E



Arts

Play In Feeding Hills



AMY MILLETT INFORMS Chris Stanley that they must get married for she is going to have a baby as Dave Delo-Russo, Gary Winn, and Rich Authier listen in. The Hilltop Players will be performing "Once Upon A Mattress", a whimsical play at the Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills beginning on May 10th. Call 789-2026 for reservations.

Agawam Garden Club To Hear About Growing Orchids

The growing of orchids will be the subject of the May 14th meeting of the Agawam Garden Club and Dr. William Hutchinson of Amherst will be the guest speaker.

Dr. Hutchinson will present a talk-slide program entitled "Those Fascinating Orchids" and anyone interested in the subject may attend.

A former Dean of the Science, Engineering and Mathematics Division of Holyoke Community College, Dr. Hutchinson retired in December 1995. He was also a professor of Biology and Horticulture. Involved with orchids since 1951, he has his own greenhouses and hybridizes and grows the seedlings to maturity.

Alice Moore will provide flower arrangements for the program and hospitality chairpersons Nancy Smith and Terry Angotti will be assisted with refreshments by Martha Theodorowicz, Vivian Provost, Karen Paltz, Alice Stein, Leah Nesin, and Denise Carmody.

The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m., May 14th at the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street, Agawam.

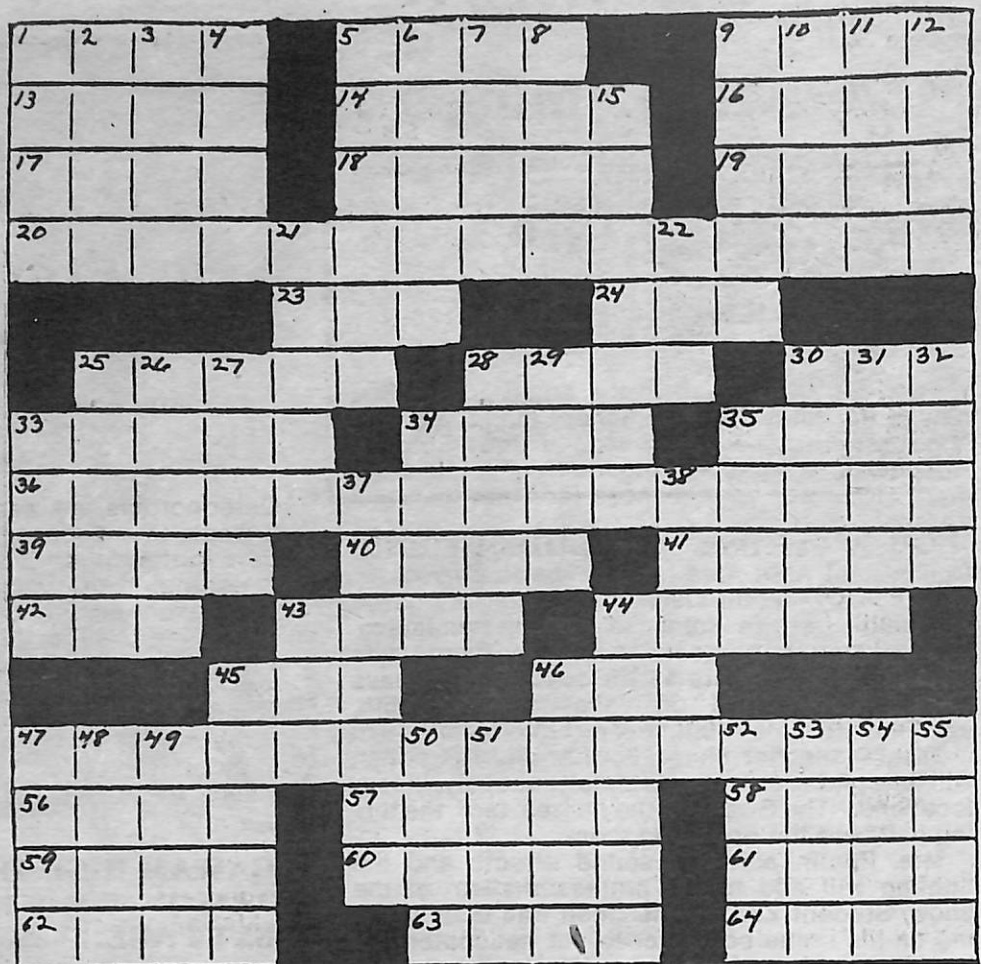
ACROSS

- 1 Eastern European
- 5 Close tightly
- 9 Actor's gig
- 13 Take on
- 14 Kitchen tool
- 16 Type of exam
- 17 Actor Sharif
- 18 Spring up
- 19 Actress Russell
- 20 Doctor portrayer in "Halloween"
- 23 O.K. answer
- 24 Patriotic org.
- 25 Immigrant's Island
- 28 Stain
- 30 "— Lanka"
- 33 Sci-fi thriller
- 34 Gemstone
- 35 Prayer finale
- 36 Wayne's son in "Red River"
- 39 Musical item
- 40 Moving vehicles
- 41 Nathan and Edward
- 42 Thing, at law
- 43 Stopped over
- 44 Staircase section
- 45 Sailor
- 46 "— Canto"
- 47 He played "Little Caesar"
- 56 Type of kick
- 57 Persian today
- 58 Lotion ingredient
- 59 Church hub
- 60 "— on" (spoiled)
- 61 Lollabrigida
- 62 Ripened
- 63 Marries
- 64 Shadow box

DOWN

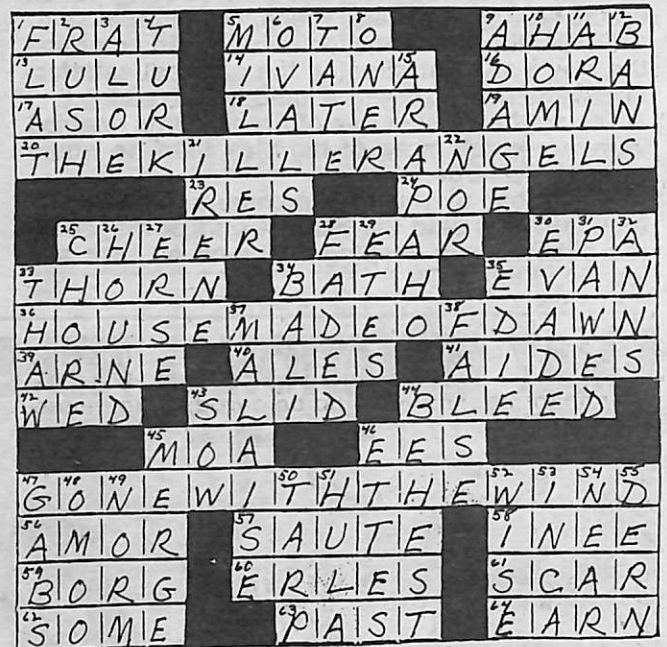
- 1 Was shoed
- 2 V.I.P.'s car
- 3 Scottish island
- 4 Dancer Ralston
- 5 Highest valued suite
- 6 Wyatt and brothers
- 7 Seed covering
- 8 "— Majesty"
- 9 Moore who portrayed 007
- 10 Algerian port
- 11 Not of the clergy
- 12 French fashion mag
- 15 Without difficulty
- 21 Falsifying
- 22 "My Gal —"
- 25 Wed on the run
- 26 "Peanuts" cartoon character
- 27 "— fall in love"

MEET THE MASTER — by Dick Mastroianni



- 28 Disbursed
- 29 Sculler's implements
- 30 "Let a — be your..."
- 31 Cite
- 32 Interests (abbr.)
- 33 Cupid
- 34 Muscat today
- 35 Word of woe
- 37 Played to excess
- 38 Hot pepper
- 43 Ingot
- 44 Actions at an auction
- 45 Recorded
- 46 Prepared fish
- 47 Ferber or Best
- 48 Type of race
- 49 Spun
- 50 Increase in size
- 51 Pass judgement
- 52 Certain horses
- 53 Take a fall
- 54 Lady Chaplin
- 55 Close

Last Week's Solution...



best local news...

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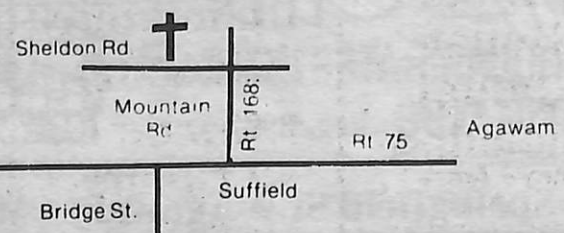
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Education

M*A*S*H Coming To Agawam High Stage May 15th & 16th

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

From the big screen to the small screen and now to the Agawam High School stage, the men and women of the 4077th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital have been bringing the tragi-comic aftermath of combat to audiences for more than two decades.

First it was Donald Sutherland and Elliott Gould; then Alan Alda and Wayne Rogers. Now, AHS seniors Justin Casinighino and Jeff Harlin will take on the roles of the wisecracking, practical-joking surgeons Hawkeye Pierce and Trapper John McIntire as the AHS theater class presents "M*A*S*H" on Wednesday, May 15th, and Thursday, May 16th, in the school auditorium.

Theater teacher Margo Poulin said the action will take place, sometimes simultaneously, in four locations: "The Swamp," the nurses' tent, the dining hall, and the operating room.

Mrs. Poulin said the sound effects and the lighting will add to the professionalism of the show. Student Zac Mounelmehe has been working on his home computer to put helicopter and gunfire sounds on CD. The lighting for the show is being digitized on the school's new computerized lighting board. The lighting will be pre-set so that the lighting technicians will only need to punch up the settings for each scene, Mrs. Poulin said.

For senior Dan Viens, doubling as an actor and the play's student director, the greatest satisfaction came from "having a hand in everything."

Taking the smaller role of Frank Burns enabled Viens to watch more of the play than he would have with a larger role.

With most of the cast members as personal friends, Viens said the hardest part of his job as the director was keeping everyone on task and learning their lines.



AGAWAM HIGH THEATER STUDENTS will be performing the popular comedy/drama M*A*S*H on May 15th and 16th on the school's main stage. RELATED PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGE. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

"I stressed getting their lines down early and for the most part, they have responded very well to the pressure I put on them. I'm very proud of them; we have a very talented cast, and they've put in a lot of hard work," Viens said.

With opening night getting closer, the pressure is getting "a little scary," Viens admitted. "I want this to be a good play, especially since it's the last thing I'll do at AHS."

Also ending a long association with the AHS theater program, Claudine Nofall (AHS class of '90) is stepping down as assistant director. Ms. Nofall will be moving to Chicago to attend law school.

Featured cast members include Al Albano, Andy Pond, Zac Mounelmehe, Jeff Harlin, Andrew Ingham, Jeff Gaylor, Amber Paradysz, and Justine Craven.

Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door for \$4. For senior citizens and students in the Renaissance Club, the ticket price will be \$3.

For a poignant look at life astride the 38th parallel in wartorn Korea, join Radar and the gang for "surgery by the numbers" and laughter by the bellyful at the Painless Polish Poker Game and Dental Clinic as the medics struggle to keep sane in a world gone mad.

MAY IS NATIONAL FITNESS MONTH

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May 15th & 16th

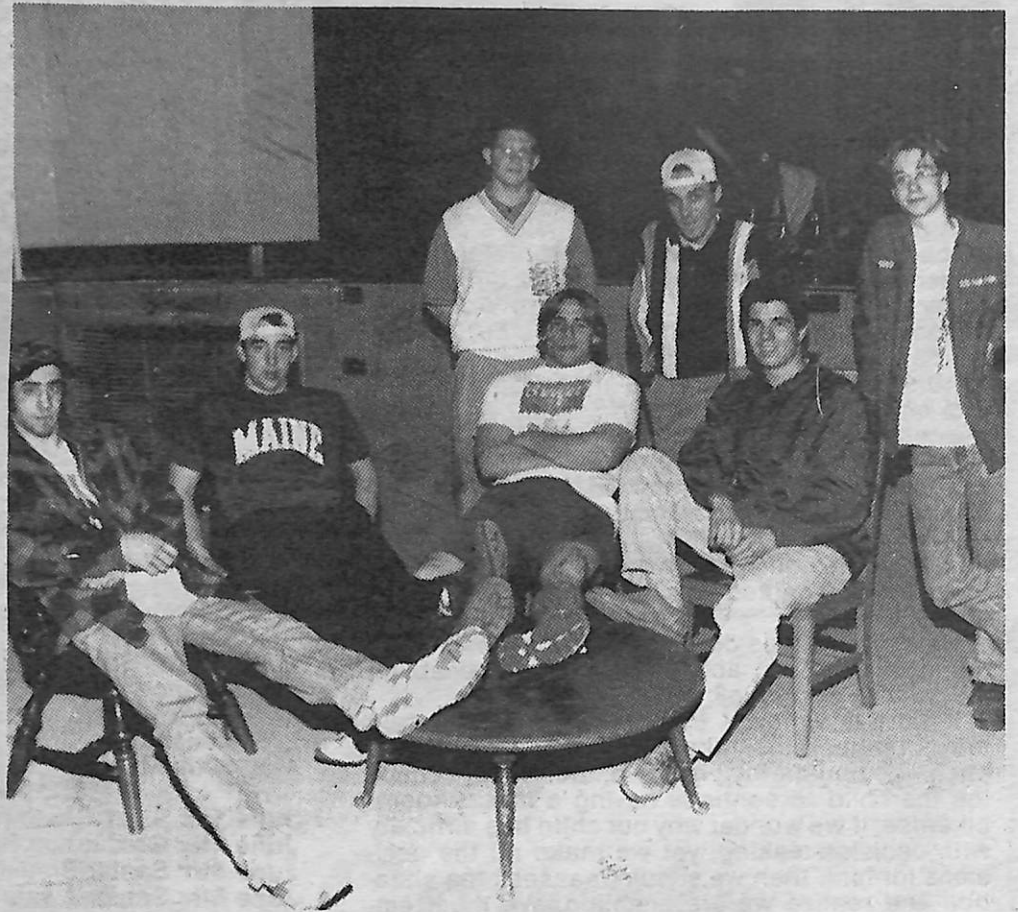
High School Auditorium 7:30 P.M.

Tickets: \$4.00

\$3.00 Senior Citizens

\$3.00 Renaissance

AHS Theater Students To Perform M*A*S*H



CAST MEMBERS OF M*A*S*H rehearse at Agawam High School in preparation for the upcoming May 15th and 16th performances. The group is under the direction of theater teacher Margo Poulin. RELATED STORY AND PHOTO ON PREVIOUS PAGE. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam Resource Ctr. Opened On May 6th

The Agawam Resource Center opened on May 6, 1996.

Located at 733 Main Street, the Resource Center will provide the community with materials and programs to promote family literacy. Agawam teachers and parents may borrow materials, which will include books, theme packets and kits, manipulatives, and offer fun family programs.

The Center's hours are Monday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.; Thursday, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Watch for upcoming events!

Junior High Chorus To Host Ice Cream Social/Fundraiser

Topper's Ice Cream is the place to be on Friday, May 10th, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Come for a pony ride (only \$2) and an ice cream while helping the music program at the same time! Topper's will be donating 20 percent of the profits to the Junior High Chorus on ALL sales, All day long on May 10th.

Topper's is located at 312 Springfield Street in Agawam.

May 14th Public Hearing At Agawam Middle School

There will be a public hearing on May 14, 1996 at 8:00 p.m. at the Agawam Middle School pertaining to Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Performance Standards.

Documents may be reviewed at any Agawam Public School, the Town Library, or the Superintendent's Office.

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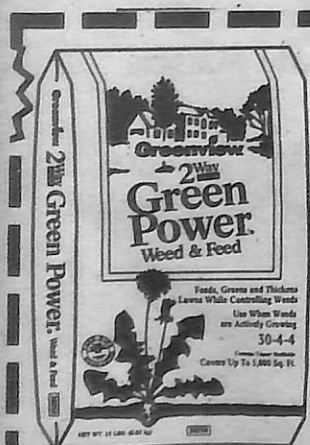
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AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen
Acting Director
AHS Guidance Dept.

A mother comes into the counselor's office to discuss her son's grades. "Well, I just don't understand it. He really is a bright kid, but he does have this job now that he goes to right after school and he works until 9:00 p.m., but he tells me he can get his work done in school."

"Did you tell him that if his grades go down, the job will have to cease?" "No," she replied. "I mean, he told me he could handle everything and when I first saw that the grades were low, we did talk about it, but he promised me that he had everything under control and not to worry, so I didn't."

"Well," the counselor responded, "unfortunately, you have enabled your son to continue to get low grades."

How many times do we think we're being good parents, but, in actuality, we are enabling behavior to continue?

If we get annoyed that a child's room would make a pigpen look like a palace, yet we are the ones who constantly pick it up, then we are enabling the child to continue having a messy room! Likewise, if we wonder why our child has difficulty with decision-making, yet we make all the decisions for him, then we should reassess the situation and realize we are enabling. We must empower our children to take ownership of their own problems. In this way, they will take ownership of their decisions and consequences.

Yes, enabling is a powerful word that clearly impacts lives. Think about discipline. If appropriate action is not taken at home or school to preclude the unwanted behavior, then it's almost a given that the negative behavior will continue. After all, why should it stop? Nothing was done to make the perpetrator stop and ponder his actions. At times, by being too nice, we are not really doing the child a favor!

Conjure up this image. A young child is learning to walk. Mom always holds his hand. Looking

"Bicycle Safety Skills Day" To Be Sponsored By Ag. Police Dept.

The Agawam Police Department will be sponsoring a "Bicycle Safety Skills Day" at the Agawam High School Parking Lot on Saturday, May 11, 1996 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Bicycle Safety Skills events allow the young cyclists an opportunity to demonstrate their abilities and increase awareness and proficiency in safe bicycle riding.

The Agawam Police Bike Patrol Unit will be on hand to meet with the participants and discuss bike safety. Safety inspections will be conducted by Dave Axler of Axler's Bicycle Shop, and bicycles may be registered with the Agawam Police Department.

Helmets are required to participate in this event. If you do not have a helmet or need a new one, the Agawam Police Association will be offering "Bell" brand helmets for \$5. There is a variety of youth sizes, colors, and designs.

around, she wonders why others his age are running and/or waiting alone. Asking a friend, she is told, "Do you ever leave your child's side, go across the room, and call to him? I bet then, without your holding his hand, he'll walk alone as he walks to the other side of the room." It's important to give your child space to walk alone.

As parents and educators, it is very important to be cognizant of enabling. Perhaps a child is not changing his ways because of our behavior. Let's, therefore, take a good look at ourselves, assess the situation, and empower ourselves to help our children make positive changes in their lives.

To enable or not to enable... the choice is ours, but the results are vastly different.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MAY & JUNE 1996 AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

May 10th: Advanced Placement U.S. History Test, 7:25 a.m.; Advanced Placement European History Test, 12:00 p.m.

May 18th: Advanced Placement Biology Test, 7:25 a.m.

May 15th & 16th: MASH, 7:30 p.m.

May 22nd: Vaudeville, 7:00 p.m.

SENIOR FINALS

May 24th: English, Social Studies, Physical Education, Music

May 28th: Science, Language, Family/Consumer Science, Physical Education, Music

May 29th: Math, Computer Science, Business, Art, Technical Ed.

May 30th: Make-up Testing

JUNE

June 1st: S.A.T. Testing

June 4th: Graduation Rehearsal, 9:00 a.m.

June 5th: Senior Breakfast, 9:00 a.m.

June 6th: Senior Awards Night, 7:00 p.m.

June 7th: Senior Picnic, High Meadows, 9:00 a.m.

June 9th: Graduation, 1:00 p.m.

June 20th, 21st, 24th, 25th: Final Exams

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

May 23rd: National Junior Honor Society

May 24th: Warning notices issued

June 7th: Grade 8 Dance, 7:30-10:00 p.m.

AGAWAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

May 24th: Warning notices issued

GUIDANCE BULLETIN

College Acceptances - Congratulations!

John A. Hill, Westfield State; Mike Bouchard, STCC, HCC

Heather Wynne Intern At ConnPIRG

Heather Wynne, daughter of Ms. Carolyn G. Wynne of 35 Kosciusko Avenue, Feeding Hills, and Mr. Daniel P. Wynne, Jr., is participating in an internship with ConnPIRG, Connecticut Public Interest Research Group, for the spring semester.

She is a student at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. Wynne is a member of the Class of 1996 and is majoring in Anthropology at Trinity. She is a graduate of Agawam High School.

Trinity, founded in 1823, is an independent nonsectarian liberal arts college that consistently is ranked among the nation's best for undergraduate learning. The College offers a classical liberal arts curriculum with 35 major fields of study and is noted for its ability to combine "real world" issues and experiences with the more theoretical lessons of the classroom; its flexibility in offering a large number and variety of learning options.

Jr. High Plans For Graduation Dance; Other Events Noted

The annual 8th grade graduation dance will be held on Friday, June 7th from 7:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. This dance is a "dress your best" - NOT A SEMI-FORMAL.

The disc jockey will be Bill Deveno. Tickets will go on sale in the cafeteria about a week before the dance. The students have formed a decorating committee which meets every Tuesday after school, from 2:15-3:15 in Room 104. Any parents who would like to help out are welcome. Sue Hearn is chairing the dance committee.

Anyone interested in chaperoning on that evening or helping with ticket sales during lunch should contact Sue at 789-1529 or call the school office.

The Junior High will be holding its second bookfair this year from May 20th until the 24th. Books will be on sale during lunch on those days. This bookfair is a buy one, get one free sale. For each book purchased, the students can choose another book of equal or lesser value for free. Parents are needed to help during lunchtime for this sale. If you would like to help, please contact Mr. Costanzi at school.

The PTO is looking for nominations for officers for the 96-97 school year. Anyone with children in the school as of September is eligible to run for an office. The PTO is a wonderful way for parents to be part of their child's school.

If you are interested in running for an office, or know of someone who is, please contact Donna Shibley at 786-3888. Elections will take place during the May 20th PTO meeting. All meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

The School Council is also looking for parent volunteers. Four parents are needed to serve for the 96-97 school year. As a member of the school council, you will have an opportunity to work on the school improvement plan, be involved in the budget process, and help make the Jr. High a better school.

The council meets one evening per month during the school year. If you are interested, please contact Donna Shibley at 786-3888 or Mr. Littlefield at school.

MAY EVENTS

May 21st: "Foul Shooting Contest" for Non-User's Club members, sponsored by the Agawam Junior Women's Club from 2:15-3:15 p.m. in the school gym.

May 23rd: The Junior National Honor Society Induction Ceremony will be held at 12:30 p.m. in the auditorium with refreshments following in the cafeteria. Parents are needed to help set up and serve refreshments that afternoon.

Anyone interested in helping should contact the school.

PLEASE remember that our deadline is every Tuesday at noon.

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AGAWAM HIGH MUSICIANS WHO PERFORMED at the "Lisa Ziegert Scholarship Concert" at AHS last month included (top photo) Alan Blake and Justin Casinghino in a saxophone duet; photo below, Kevin Cornwell and Kevin Tampone on the trumpet; and last photo, Matthew Slattery, playing a *Moonlight Sonata* on the piano. Lisa Ziegert was a member of the AHS Marching Mohawks during her schoolgirl years and her parents, George and Dee, were band parents for many years. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Agawam High Musicians Perform At "Lisa Ziegert Scholarship Concert"

The Lisa Ziegert Scholarship Concert was held April 9th at Agawam High School, honoring the memory of the 1985-86 senior drum major for the Marching Mohawks.

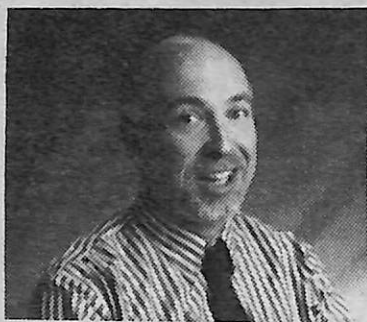
"I will always remember her as a kind person, wonderful musician, and a great leader," said Agawam High School Band Director Tammy Watson. "Lisa came from what we (the directors) refer to as a 'band family.' You know, the ones who are at everything (even the events in the rain or subzero temperatures), who sell more candy than anyone else, who go on all the band trips, and who remember the things the director forgot (like the first aid kit, permission slips, and don't forget, glove tape).

"Lisa's younger brother, David, played trumpet in the band. In fact, he was also the drum major. Her sister, Sharon, played saxophone and was a colorguard captain. Three kids in the band meant

that George and Dee Ziegert were band parents for a lot of years. When I think about great band parents, I think about them," said Ms. Watson.

"Tonight is a celebration," she continued. "We honor the memory of Lisa Ziegert. We pay tribute to our seniors. We reflect upon a successful year and look forward to the future. It is a privilege to be the director of such a great band," concluded Ms. Watson.

Students performing at the Lisa Ziegert Scholarship Concert included Justin Casinghino and Alan Blake, "Impressions of the Dawn," Kevin Tampone and Kevin Cornwell, "Siege of Rochelle," Matthew Slattery, "Moonlight Sonata," Angela Tassinari, "The Syrinx," Michael Perry, "Waltz and Galop," Matthew Feato, "Andante in C Major," Christina Lavalley and Amy Wisniewski, "Sonata No. 3," and Bradford Tilden, "December's Song."



"Every Child Counts"

Child Self-Esteem Seminar (Ages 9-14)
Saturday, June 8th

Captain Charles Leonard House
10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Dr. Steve Sobel is a former teacher, school principal, special education director and now devotes the majority of his time speaking at major conferences on issues regarding self-esteem, attitude and selected motivation issues for children as well as adults.

Co-Sponsored by The Agawam Advertiser News

WHAT IS COVERED IN THE SEMINAR: Dr. Sobel will discuss, in a very upbeat and supportive manner, the following strands of information.

- How to handle rejection
- How to make sound choices and judgments in social and school settings
- How to feel more self-assured and confident
- The importance of communicating effectively with peers and parents
- How to feel "good enough"
- How to get along better with others in difficult situations
- The importance of setting goals

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Please send this form to the address above with the registration fee of \$10 per child as soon as possible, as space is limited. Checks are payable to Dr. Steve Sobel. If you have any questions, call Dr. Sobel at 413-785-1259.

Name Of Child/ren Attending _____

Age/s _____ Amount Enclosed (\$10 Per Child) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

I give permission for my child/ren to attend the seminar offered by Dr. Sobel on Self-Esteem for Children on Saturday, June 8, 1996.

Parent's Signature _____ Daytime Phone () _____

Agawam High School HONOR ROLL

GRADE 12:

Elaina Almerna, James Baldyga, Natasha Bilyaletdinova, Stephanie Biza, Kevin Bovat, Nicole Boyer, John Butler, Kelly Carmody, Lisa Cassanelli, Gina Cincotta, Jennifer Clarke, Nancy Cuccovia, Adam David, Nicholas Davio, Christian DeBonville, Kirsten Lea Decoteau, Susan DeFilipi, Michael Domaingue, Timothy Drenzek, Christy Dubay, Kimberly Faust, Sabrina Ferrari, Melissa Fleming, Nathan Frailey.

Jeffrey Gaylor, Elizabeth Gervais, Jennifer Giroux, Theodore Gontczaruk, Matthew Gordon, Matthew Grych, Alisa Harvey, Karen Hershowitz, Courtne Hyland, Eric Johnson, Jennifer Kratovil, Danielle LaBarre, Melissa LaFlamme, Andrea LeBlanc, Kelly Liard, Courtney Limbert, Carrie Lock, Michael Loguidice, Selena Machia, Andrew Markowski, Kara McDade, David McDougal, Elizabeth McGrew, Nathan Murray, Rosemarie Oppedisano, Katherine Paradysz, Mary Parrotta.

Erica Pratt, Matthew Radwanski, Laura Rapa, Catherine Reynolds, Michael Robinson, Jeffrey Rousseau, Keith Sidusky, Maryann Spring, Jamie Thomas, Kristin Tierney, Daniel Viens, Nicole Weinle, Carl Wesley, Jr., Rebecca Wing, Amy Wisniewski.

GRADE 11:

Irina Adzhigirey, Cindi Alfano, Melissa Almquist, Daniel Antaya, Gwendolyn Beaver, Christopher Bednarzyk, Megan Berry, Ann Marie Bianca, Christopher Bitzas, Amy Bronson, Derek Carpenter, Jennifer Chagnon, Sharon Chicklas, Sean Collins, Kelly Cote, Sarah Cote, Nicholas Devanski, Pamela Eaton, Sarah Fede, Michael Forastiere, Michael Freeman, Shannon Gilmartin, Todd Godfrey, Tara Grealis, Wendy Hughes, Megumi Isogai.

Jason Jean, Keith Jendza, Todd Jorgensen, Leslie Kida, Adam Kimball, Kevin King, Paul Lalli, Shavone Mackay, David Martin, Kristine Modzelesky, Zachary Mounemneh, Lori O'Dea, Jeanne O'Neil, Patricia Olson, Diane Parslow, Jill Pavelcsyk, Amy Powell, Rita Reshamwala, Lisa Reveruzzi, Maria Rosati, Kate Rouvellat, Steven Rovithis, Megan Shannon, Richard Skowrya, Nicholas Solecki.

Jennifer Stratton, Nikki Suffriti, Christopher Sullivan, Laura Sypit, Kevin Tampone, Jennifer Theriaque, Melissa Troie, Katie Wells, Steven Wheeler.

GRADE 10:

Katherine Anderson, Heather Archangeletti, Heidi Benton, Jonathan Bernard, Melissa Berry, Melissa Boissonneault, Sarah Bonini, Robert Bousquet, Irene Brown, Adolfo Bruno, Tracy Butler, Jaime Callahan, Geoffrey Ciak, Amber Conte, Jason Cook, John Cordis, Kevin Cornwell, Jonathan Couture, James Crowley, Andrea Davis, Lonnie DeLuca, Maureen Dimock, Sara Drenzek, Eric Fay, Jessica Ferris, Trisha Fiorini, Stephanie Fleming.

Seema Gada, Lindy Gage, Heather Green, Richard Haglund, Jr., Jessica Hansen, Daniel Hendrix, Michele Ingalls, Christina Januska, Shaun Kane, Kathleen Kempton, Michelle Kowalewski, Geoffrey Krapf, Cheryl Lanier, Karen Lapienski, Tae Geon Lee, Courtney Locke, Kin Ly, Jeffrey Lyman, Raena Major, Gary Mantolesky, Gina Markowski, Anthony Marsili, Amy Mastrolanni.

Brian Melloni, Bryan O'Quinn, Kristen Patterson, Brooke Ramah, Jennifer Rondinelli, James Roseberry, Alison Scherban, Kimberly Scherpa, Karan Shaw, Elisabeth Shea, Shawn Sherry, Jennifer Smist, Jonathan Solecki, Andrew St. Jean, Daryl St. Laurent, John Szymczyk,

Angela Tassinari, Lauren Tryba, Shawn Warner, Andrew Werther, Ryan White, Angela Whitney, Michael Wing, Jennifer Zerra.

GRADE 9:

Diane Abdala, Brett Adamczyk, Matthew Albano, Daniel Balbony, Michelle Beaudette, Erik Bodurtha, Franca Bonavita, Kimberly Bosini, Danielle Bourdeau, Jessica Lynn Briotta, Michael Burba, Jamie Cincotta, Andrea Cizek, Glenn Corlett, Melissa Cote, Melissa Crough, Michael DeFilipi, Danielle DeForge, Charles Denison IV, Jessica Dutton, Shaunessy Egan, David Federico, Colleen Marie Fenton, Jason Fiore, Joseph Fiore, Jason Flood.

Jason Gagne, Ryan Gilbert, Christina Gregory, Jason Grimaldi, Erin Hanley, Mark Hedeon, Larry Hoague, Brian Howes, Heather Marie Hughes, Alison Jackobek, Evan Konopka, Justin Kratovil, Paul LaBarre, Antonio Laudati, Robert Liard, Jennifer Loomis, Nicole Macey, Brian Machos, Barbara Maloni, Martha Manning, Diana Marsh, Lisa Marsh, Lindsay Mason, Jennifer McGuire.

Brenna McGinn, Holly Moren, Kornelia Moysis, Sarah Nacewicz, Jennifer Niedziela, Ronald Ogulewicz, Mathieu Perry, Amanda Peters, Roberta Przybyla, Patrick Renna, Erin Rescigno, Nikita Reshamwala, Crystal Rivers, Brian Rondeau, Shelley Rose, Christopher Rousseau, Robert Santaniello, Mario Santillo, Michael Schmidt, Jason Sinay, Aaron Skowrya, Sara Stevenson, David Strole, Emily Tampone, Joyce-Ann Tedone, Laura Tenerowicz, Kara Tierney, Robert Wrigley, Patricia Zerra.

(PLEASE NOTE: Report cards were issued to high school students on Friday, April 26th.)

AHS Arts Students Visit Boston Sites

A group of art students from Mrs. Geraldine Ann Schilling-Nordal's Drawing and Painting I, II, and III classes, plus a few students from her Crafts I class recently spent a day in Boston.

Their first stop was the Kennedy Library at Colomiba Point where they viewed a movie of the Kennedy years and saw various displays of memorabilia. The library has received a recent gift of Mrs. Kennedy Onassis' belongings from the family, but they are not yet ready for viewing as they have to be catalogued.

From there the students traveled to The School for the Arts at Boston University, where they were given a tour through the studios and working areas by student guides. Painting students were working on very large canvases, three times the size of a normal house window, and sculpture

students were creating life-size figures. The college has a print shop, photography labs, graphic arts area, computer labs, and craft areas. A spring exhibit of student work was enjoyed by all.

As these students had studied the "History of Painting," this year a trip to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts was on the agenda along with the Special Exhibit featuring Winslow Homer, who was born in Boston in 1836. This exhibit includes all of his major works which have been gathered from various sources and is outstanding. For those who wish to see the exhibit, it will be there until May 26th.

Chaperones making the trip included Mrs. Bert Abbey, Mrs. Louise Muise, Mrs. Paul Seidell, Mrs. Kathy Norris, Mrs. Barbara Pillarella, and Mrs. Schilling-Nordal.

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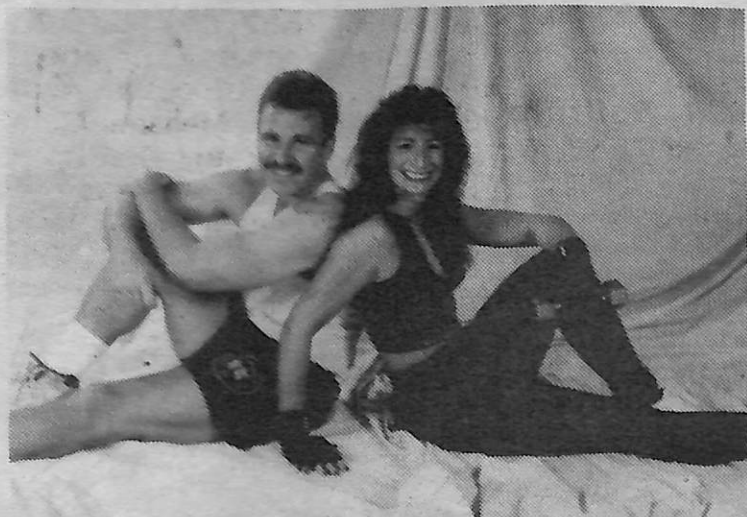
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Osteoporosis Prevention Week is May 12 - 18!

Learn what the disease is, how to recognize it, prevent it and what you can do about it if it's happening to you or someone you care about.

Presenters:

Nancy Dell, Registered Dietitian
Dr. David Pierangelo, Rumatologist
Barbara Vinciguerra, Exercise Specialist
Lynn Ostrowski, Health New England Wellness Director

Wednesday, May 15th

Two Sessions: 9:30 - 11:30 am or 6:30 - 8:30 pm

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\$5.00 donation to the Osteoporosis Research Foundation is requested per person.



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Boneless Eye Round Roast	\$2.29 Lb.
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5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.39 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
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Boneless Club Steak	\$5.29 Lb.
Gol Pak Snack Wings (5 Lb. Bag)	\$3.99
Willow Tree Chicken Pies (Large - 52 Oz.)	\$6.99
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.79 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.59 Lb.
Fresh Hamburg Patties (2 Lb. Box)	\$4.49
Frozen Hamburg Patties (5 Lb. Box)	\$8.99

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**WEEK EIGHT:
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Middle School HONOR ROLL

GRADE 5

Daniel Adamski, Zinaida Adzhigirey, Kevin Athas, Joshua Aubin, Andrea Babbin, Michael Bachini, Kevin Baptiste, Catherine Baum, Aimee Beaudette, Rebecca Berta, Thomas Bertrand, David Bienia, Ashley Blanchard, Stacy Boisjolie, Frank Bond, Paul Bonini.

Kevin Borgatti, Dale Bouthiller, Ashley Brodeur, Whitney Brown, Kelly Burgess, Sean Burke, Lindsay Carey, Rebecca Carey, Alexis Chretien, Christin Cilimberg, Nicole Circosta-Aspinall, Danielle Cirillo, Carlie Colson, Andrea Conte, Heather Cox, Kelly Curry, Gregory Curtis, Lieghanna Daigneau, Jenine Davignon.

Christopher Davis, Michael Dombrowski, Kelly Doyle, Daniel Drewniak, Suzanne Dudley, Michael Eggleston, Chad Farrington, Jessica Ferreira, Michael Ferrigno, Kevin Fleming, Allyson Gavron, Nicole Gendreau, Nicole Gessay, Daniel Gomes, Kevin Grimaldi, Kaitlyn Haglund.

Ian Hamlett, Daniel Hanson, Donald Hare, Kristina Heim, Caitlin Holland, Joel Howe, Scott Howes, Jessica Hudson, Rachel Keenan, Linda Kelley, Anna Kiforishina, Jocelynn Kraus, Nicholas Krolicki, Michael Lalli, Patrick Landers, Sherri Laskowski, Justin Lepard, Michael Locke, Ryan Lottermoser, Christopher Malloy.

Mario Maloni, Ashley Marek, Kristen Marsili, Christopher Martin, Johanna Masotti, Christine McGavin, Sean

McKeever, Erin McLane, Eric McLaughlin, Megan Mercadante, McKenzie Michaels, Vincent Moretti, Allison Morris, Nina Murray, Ashley Mutti, Joscelyn Paulin, Joscelyn Paulin, Michael Peetros, Jodie Pfau.

Paul Pilegi, Courtney Poirier, Julie Pontz, Maureen Quinlan, Kelly Reilly, David Reynolds, Nicole Rheaume, Shawn Roberts, Laurence Rocke, David Rosenberg, Amanda Rozanski, Yole Russo, Gina Saimer, Kaitlin Sardella, Cassandra Schutt, Jennifer Sharpe, Alexandra Simmons.

Amanda Stork, Kristen Strole, Daniel Sullivan, Benjamin Sunny, Victoria Taylor, Brittany Theriaque, Michael Theroux, John Tisdell, Joseph Trombley, Sebastian Verelst, Cori Verteramo, Ryan Ward, Celyn Williams, Jeffrey Woodard, Kevin Wyman, Andrew Wynne, Ryan Zaczynski, Laura Zerra.

GRADE 6

Taryn Albano, Nicole Baginski, Mark Bates, Amanda Blair, Thomas Boisjolie, William Bond, Jamie Borkosky, Amanda Brown, Margaret Bulmer, Michael Carmody, Jon Carpenter, Rachel Caruso, Kelly Cassidy, Kimberly Chmura, Erin Corbin, Michelle Cote, Matthew Couture, Lauren Cressotti, Michael Crough.

Robert Cullen, Adam D'Amario, Monica Davilli, Jenna Davis, Danya Decoteau, Lucas Dempsey, Nicholas DePalma II, Jennifer Dobise, Caira Dominguez, Kara Dominick, Scott Drenzek, Matthew

Duplessis, Ronald Dutton, Kathryn Feato, Stefanie Fede, Amanda Fox, Kei Fujioka.

Kara Gilhooly, Erinn Gloster, Hilary Golas, Alyssa Goodrow, Elizabeth Gottardi, Jennifer Grimaldi, Sarah Hamel, Andrew Huffman, Tiffany Iannarelli, Erin Jackson, Craig Jendza, Nicole Jensen, Melissa Jubinville, Jennifer Jutte, Rachel Kimball, Brian Knight, Joseph Kocot, Karl Konopka, Andrew Korney, Kimberly Landry, Jillian Lawson, Jacqueline Legrand, Amanda Lemieux, Matthew Ligenza.

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Heather Crescentini, Lauren DeLuca, Nicole Dominick, Peter Drewniak, Adam Ellsworth, James Evans, Michael Federico, Tara Feeley, Scott Fleming, Brian Foley, Jessica Forni, Megan Gaffney, Sean Gaffney, Aaron Gilbert, Samantha Gingras, Andrew Green, Sara Gregory, Ashley Guiel, Stephanie Gumlaw, Ryan Hanley, Corey Hobbs, James Ingari, Janet Jock, Lauren Kida.

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Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, May 13th: Personal round pizza, tossed garden salad with spinach greens & creamy Italian dressing, chilled fruit cup, milk.

Tuesday, May 14th: Rotini with meat-sauce, tossed garden salad with spinach greens & dressing, bread & butter, chocolate cake with icing or fruit cup, milk.

Wednesday, May 15th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets, wheat bread & butter, seasoned mixed vegetables, spiced applesauce, chocolate pudding with topping, milk.

Thursday, May 15th: Meatball sandwich in roll (with tomato sauce and cheese), seasoned broccoli cuts, apple crisp, milk.

Friday, May 16th: Cup of orange juice, grilled cheese sandwich, pickle chips, oven potato puffs with catsup, ice cream cup, milk.

* **REMINDER:** Elementary lunch in \$1. Tickets **must be purchased** on Mondays for the week. Personal checks are accepted, payable to: **The Agawam School Lunch.**

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Sports

AHS 1996 Spring Sports Coaches & Captains



MEMBERS OF THE 1996 Agawam High spring sports coaching staff with Athletic Director Kathleen McSweeney (front row, far left) and the team captains from the various spring sports. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Weekend Softball Shows AHS Girls In State Fray

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Championship teams, in any sport, are always on the lookout for the best competition they can find. The 1995 Western Mass title holders and state finalist Agawam High girls' softball team found that competition last weekend (four hours by van from home) way out on Cape Cod.

The venue was the Friendship Invitational Softball Tournament at Provincetown. The festivities started Saturday morning and went through Sunday afternoon. The experience and the memories the Brownies brought back with them will last for softball seasons to come and also for a lifetime.

The tournament includes the three top teams from softball crazy Eastern Massachusetts—Division One state champion Bishop Fenwick, Division Two powerhouse Amesbury, and metropolitan Boston juggernaut Coyle and Cassidy High School. The Brownies were particularly interested in Fenwick and Amesbury, for they would make up the weekend's competition.

"We learned so much from this trip," Brownie Coach Debbie Lickley said upon returning home Sunday night. "We gave them a good account of Western Massachusetts softball."

Their first game, Saturday afternoon, saw them take on Amesbury. The result—a 7-4 loss, which swept the then 10-0 Brownies from the ranks of the unbeaten.

Amesbury boasted a right-handed hurler named Nikki Salvatore, who already has a score of college softball programs hot on her trail. She gave the Brownies a solid and valuable lesson on just what power pitching is all about.

Lickley explained, "Without a doubt, she is the best softball pitcher I've seen in my 17 years coaching the game. She has a blazing fastball. She can control the speed of the pitch and spot it where she wants it. She mixes up her pitches and has a wicked drop." Then the coach added, "She simply kept us off balance all game long."

The coach remarked, however, that they had their opportunities against Amesbury. Kristen Patterson started out the game with a triple off a Salvatore heater. The Brownie shortstop, ever the aggressive baserunner, slipped and fell rounding third. She gathered herself up and tried for home, but got nailed at the plate. The coach ruminated that if she had scored, things might have been different.

Danielle Curley started for the Brownies. She pitched seven innings, gave up four hits, struck out one, and walked out two. Unfortunately, two of those hits were two-run homers.

"We could have run them down," Lickley noted. "But there were screened-in tennis courts about 150 feet away in left." The screens effectively halted all Agawam pursuit, allowing the balls to touch down in the courts.

SEE SOFTBALL - Page 37...

McGeoghan's Four-Pack Puts AHS Back On Winning "Track"

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

On Tuesday, the Agawam boys' track team ran their record to 4-2 with a 70-66 win over visiting Westfield (3-4). The Brownie effort was anchored once again by the performance of junior Phil McGeoghan. He won the triple jump (42'8"), the high jump (6'6"), the 100-meter dash, and the 200-meter run (25.1).

In the high jump, he used his flair for the dramatic to get the attention of the spectators. He was in it with seniors Jeff Rousseau and Dave Murphy. Rousseau went out early. Murphy was gone after a leap of 5'8".

McGeoghan easily beat the Bombers' T.J. Schahill, who topped off at 5'10". Then the tall Brownie junior had them hike up the bar to six feet. He cleared it easily. Next it was 6'6".

McGeoghan missed on his first try but nailed it in his second attempt. He had them raise it to 6'9". He failed that height on three attempts. But, as Coach Dan Beevis observed, "He has a 6'10" jump in him this year."

The 110-meter high hurdles saw another disappointment for the Brownies' talented Ian Lane. He had second place all to himself but fell over the last hurdle, which put him in third with a time of 19.2.

McGeoghan owned the 100-yard dash, finishing in 11.8. The Brownies' Tony Alfano and Brad Tilden took second and third with times of 12.1 and 12.6, respectively.

The mile was excitement from the get-go.

Westfield's Joe Wynne came out fast and led for most of the race. But Agawam's Dave Thomas had a game plan.

He was far behind Wynne until the last lap. Then he closed and stayed tucked on the Bombers' right hip until the final 200 yards. Thomas' big-time kick brought him home in a winning time of 5:01.5. Agawam's Joe Heneghan finished third in a respectable 5:28.

The Pivotal Event...

The pivotal event happened to be the 800-meter run. Agawam's Rich Rodriguez took second with a time of 2:19.7. That performance garnered enough points to insure a Brownie victory.

Agawam's 4 x 100 team of Brisco, Tilden, Kunkler, and Alfano never trailed, winning in 49.1 seconds (to Westfield's 50.9).

Agawam's hope in the 400-meter run was senior Jeff Rousseau. But the soccer star (who is headed to the University of Hartford next year) got off to a bad start and could do no better than a 58.6, which put him in second.

Rousseau shook his head after it was over. "I can do better than that," he said. His personal best in the event is 54.1.

Westfield won the 300-meter hurdles. The Brownies' Joe Mercieri took second at 49.2. Thomas clocked a 50.3 for third place.

The 200-yard dash was a hoot. McGeoghan was favored and he showed why at the gun. He's 6'4" and hard to miss.

SEE BOYS' TRACK - Page 37...



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Lowly Central Gives AHS Girls Tussle On Softball Diamond

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Last Wednesday, the Agawam High girls' softball team had its biggest scare of the season by just barely squeezing by visiting Central, 3-1.

At the time, the Brownies were 8-0 and averaging almost 11 runs a game. But the Golden Eagles, then 2-6, didn't seem all that impressed by the big numbers put up by the defending Western Mass. champs and state finalists.

Agawam finally scored first with two in the third. They came on back-to-back singles by Courtne Hyland (2-2, 1 run scored) and Jen O'Neil (1-2, 1 run scored). They were singled home by an Amber Conte (1-3, 2 RBI's) base hit.

The third run of their sudden scoring drought came an inning later when Becky Wing (0-2, 1 run scored) walked, stole second, took third on a passed ball, and came home on another ball.

Central got its run (unearned) in the sixth on an error, a sacrifice bunt, and a fielder's choice. Agawam could manage only four hits in that game. They had to depend on ace pitcher Laura Rapa (7 IP, 2 hits, 1 run, 0 earned, 7 K's, 3 walks), who ran her record to 7-0.

The next day the Brownies were back to their old ways, whipping up on Cathedral, 10-2. Agawam, behind junior pitcher Danielle Curley (7 IP, 2 hits, 2 earned runs, 5 K's, 7 walks), had its biggest run production of the game in the fourth. Andrea Nolan singled. Kristen Patterson (3 stolen bases) reached on an error which drove Nolan home. Patterson then stole second. Erica Pratt reached on an error. (The Panthers would commit six on the day.) Patterson, at third, then stole home. Senior catcher Courtne Hyland singled in Pratt. And Jen O'Neil singled her to the plate.

The win upped Agawam's record to 10-0. They were looking forward to a match-up with West Side the next day. But the game was drowned out by rain. So they hopped in their vans and headed for the Friendship Invitational Tournament to be held over the weekend, way out in Provincetown on Cape Cod.

GIRLS' SOFTBALL - from Page 36...

Agawam had four hits against the Amesbury flamethrower. Patterson had the triple plus an RBI. Erica Pratt, Courtne Hyland, and Stephanie Fleming each had a single. "Court" also had an RBI. The other two Brownies runs were unearned. "Amesbury, other than their pitcher, didn't do anything other clubs haven't done against us. We stood in and challenged Salvatore," Lickley noted.

The problem Agawam had was in the wheelhouse. "We did have some mental lapses, especially in the late innings," Lickley noted. "We know now that we have to keep our heads in the game at all times."

A Reunion With Bishop Fenwick

On Sunday at 11:00 a.m., came the big one. It was time for another meeting with the state champs—Bishop Fenwick. There was no doubt the Brownies were still smarting from their 2-1 loss last season to Fenwick in the state finals. But, at least for now, revenge will not be sweet. Fenwick beat them again, this time 3-1.

"We played them hard and tough. We could have won it," Lickley stressed.

She has a valid point. Going into the fifth inning, the score was tied at one all. Fenwick's final two runs were scored with two outs. Both were unearned.

Fenwick, much as it did in last year's championship game, utilized slap hits—little shots down the third and first base lines. It is a style of play used extensively in college softball. It is extremely effective because it puts big-time pressure on the defensive skills of the people at the corners.

"We're working on introducing that type of play into our offense," Lickley admitted. Then she added, "We are also working hard to get good at defending against it."

BOYS' TRACK - from Page 36...

McGeoghan went through the group like a cruise missile. By the time they hit the halfway point, he was ahead by 10 meters.

Fighting a mushy track and a substantial head wind, his time of 25.1 was substantially off his personal best in the event of 23.8. The Brownies'

As befits her position as ace of the staff, Laura Rapa (7-1) pitched the Fenwick game. She went the distance (seven innings), giving up six hits, striking out eight, and walking two. Only one of her runs was earned.

"We didn't give Laura much support," Lickley said of her team's offensive production. They had seven hits, two by Jen O'Neil, and one each from Patterson, Pratt, Troie, Wing, and Fleming. Patterson contributed two stolen bases.

Lickley also noted that without the benefit of any real practice time at the tournament, they defended a sophisticated Bishop Fenwick offense fairly well. "I think we've played them tougher than any team in the state."

The weekend also included fun off the softball diamond. They went shopping and sightseeing. They went out to dinner. On Saturday night, the team was treated to a rendition of "The Little People," put on by Pratt, Hyland, Fleming, and Rapa.

They also had an entourage. About 20 parents went on the road trip with the team. "It was great to have them along," Lickley said with a smile. "They are very good morale boosters."

It seems they were also good for something else. It is still off-season down at the Cape. Many places of business close early or aren't open at all, including laundromats. Mrs. Wing, Mrs. Fleming, and Mrs. Hyland got creative. They washed the teams' uniforms in their motel bathtubs. Then they got the motel manager to dry them in his dryer.

Lickley made it a point to thank the Agawam High School Softball Booster Club for all they did to make the weekend so memorable.

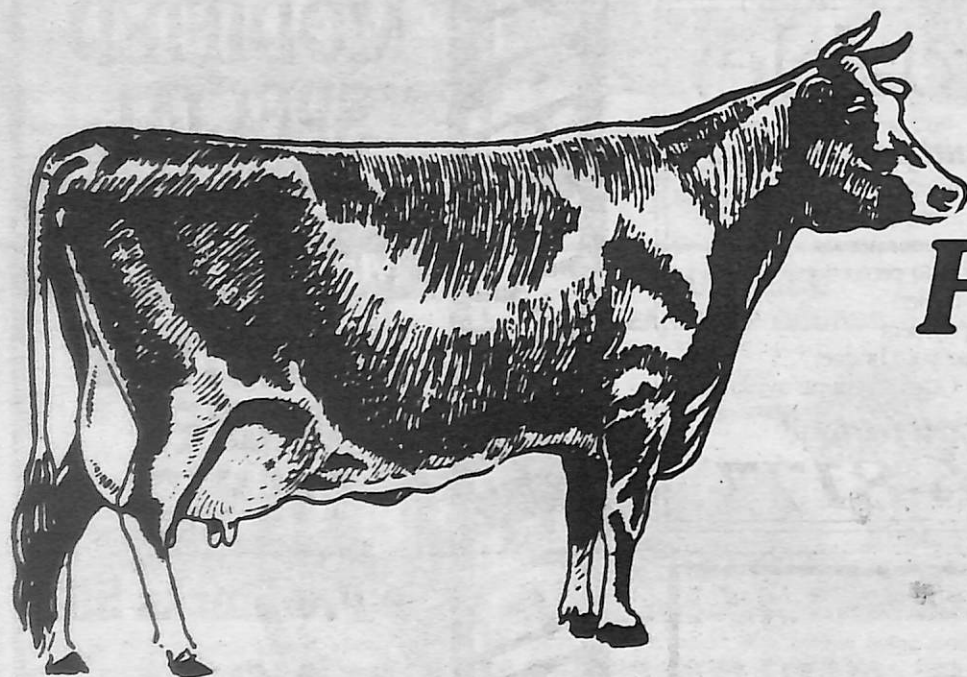
"As a team, knowing we have such a strong and dedicated group of people behind us, makes all the difference in the world," she said.

Brandon Kunkler took third with a time of 27.7.

The track events saw Agawam's Matt Bulmer take the discus with a throw of 111'9". Joe Mercier's heave of 139'½" was good enough for a win in the javelin. Mike Perry took third with a 135'6½" performance. And Dave Murphy grabbed a third place in the shot put with a heave of 36'10½".

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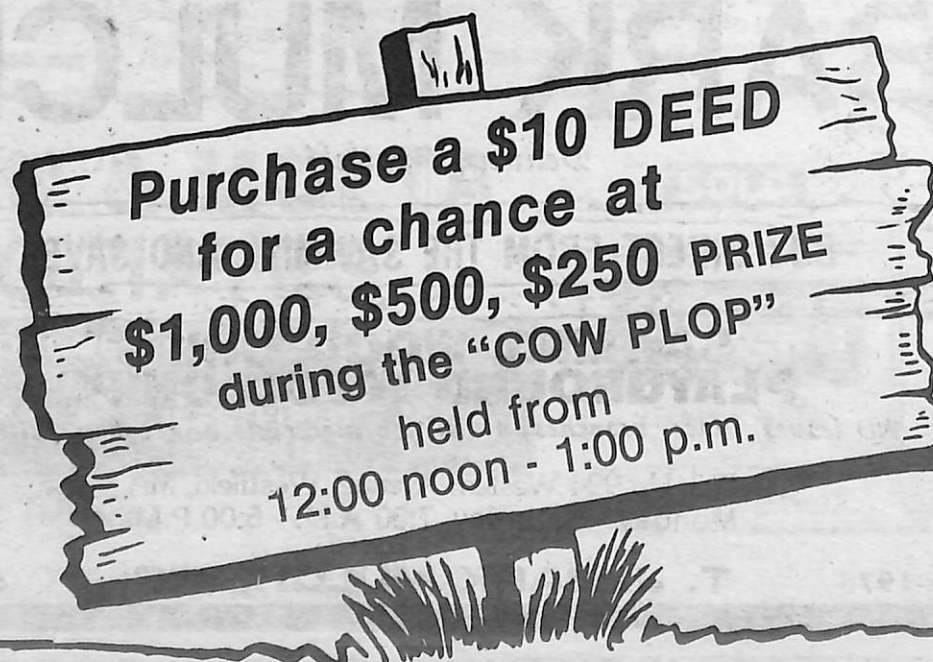
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AHS Tennis Teams Face Formidable Foes In East Longmeadow & Amherst Players

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' and girls' tennis teams saw action last week. Both played East Longmeadow. The boys were on the road. They lost 3-2. But the issue was always in doubt.

The first singles saw Brownie junior Mike Freeman fall to Charles Grey, 6-3, 5-7, 3-6. "Mike really hustled to take the first set. He was all over the place," Brownie boys' tennis Coach Bill Spear noted. "It took a lot out of him. If he'd been able to win the second set, which was just as tough, the match might have been different."

Agawam sophomore southpaw Jeff Lyman lost the second singles, 6-4, 4-6, 4-6, in another tough one. "Jeff was always attacking the net. He was aggressive," Spear said.

Ted Lee gave the Brownies a win in third singles as he blew out the Spartans' Chris Young, 6-2, 6-2.

Agawam's first doubles duo of Kyle Rossi and Bill Bellico played tough, but fell 6-3, 6-3. "Net play was the difference in this one. They just were a little quicker up there," Spear admitted.

Two sophomores, Jeff Machia and Brett Demers, made up the Brownies' second singles team and rung up Agawam's second win of the afternoon, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4. It was only their third varsity match. The coach commented on the fact that both are working well together as they continue to gain experience.

After that one, the boys' record stood at 1-4.

The girls hosted East Longmeadow. The Spartans beat them, 5-0. First singles saw the best matchup of the afternoon. After winning the first set, Agawam's Katia Prolongeau dropped the next

two, 7-5, 7-5, and fell to Nicole Ciocca.

It was an exciting battle. Prolongeau has a nice slice backhand and she used it well. But she tried to take the ball, whenever possible, on her forehand side, which produced some nice winners for her. But it also produced some unforced errors. Ciocca's two-fisted backhand also gave Prolongeau a few problems. Both players served well and were on serve in the final set until the last two games.

Kirsten Decoteau ran into some problems in second singles, losing her first set 6-7 in an 8-6 tiebreak. She went down 1-6 in the second. "Kirsten always plays well in the first set," Coach Mary Wolochowicz noted.

Third singles saw many long rallies. But it wasn't Betsy Gervais' day, as she lost 1-6, 1-6. "Despite the score, Betsy worked hard," the coach said.

First-year Brownie players Maureen Dimock and Megumi Isogai lost a tough first doubles contest, 3-6, 4-6.

Selena Machia and Courtney Locke dropped the second doubles, 3-6, 1-6. The coach noted that it was the first time they had played together.

The girls' record was 1-4 after that match.

Both teams were in action the next day (Thursday) against always-tough Amherst. The boys traveled up there. The girls hosted the Hurricanes. "Amherst is a good team," Coach Bill Spear admitted, as he assessed his club's 4-1 defeat. His first singles player for the day, Jeff Lyman, lost in straight sets.

Agawam's point came in second singles where

Mike Freeman took out Matt Jones, 6-3, 2-6, 6-3. "Mike won it because he was persistent. He also displayed some fine net play," Spear said.

Second doubles saw Jeff Machia and Brett Demers play some excellent tennis, taking the first set from Niles Gold and Fletcher Poret. But the Hurricane experience showed as they took the next two sets, 0-1, 0-1.

The loss dropped Agawam to 1-5.

The girls also dropped to 1-5 as a result of their loss to Amherst. Despite the shutout, they played hard against a Hurricane tennis squad that, like the boys, is traditionally one of the toughest in Western Mass.

The first singles saw Agawam's Katia Prolongeau go against Gwen Sikoura. Prolongeau was fresh from a tough, three-set loss the previous day in the East Longmeadow match. The Amherst junior was too much for Prolongeau, who fell 1-6, 1-6.

Second singles saw a spirited contest between Agawam's Kirsten Decoteau and Curry Walker. Kirsten dropped both sets, 2 and 5. But she was in it all the way in the second. And at one point late in the set, she was threatening to send the match to three sets.

Betsy Gervais lost her third singles match, 3-6, 1-6.

Agawam girls' tennis Coach Mary Wolochowicz was encouraged by the play of her first doubles team of Maureen Dimock and Megumi Isogai. The Hurricane duo they were playing had a lot of experience. Yet the two Brownies hung in there, losing 2 and 3.

Selena Machia and Courtney Locke lost in second doubles, 1 and 1.

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For more information or an application, contact 736-1831.

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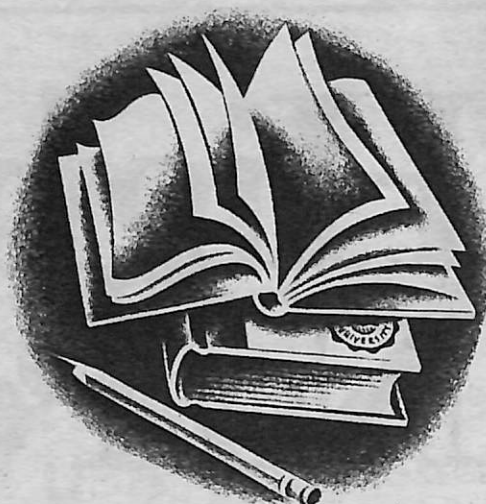


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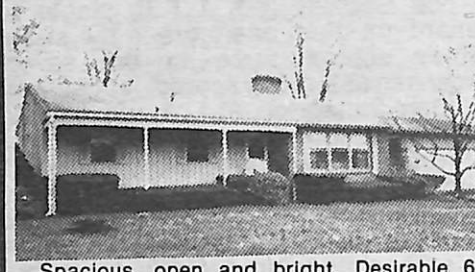
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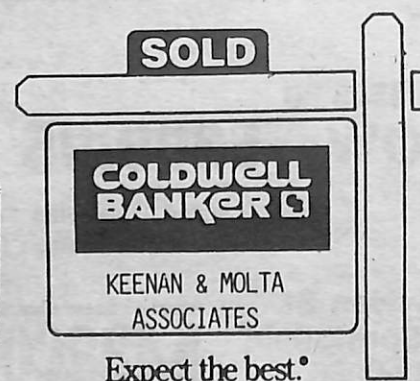
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Brownies Take-Out Ludlow, 6-4 In Baseball Action

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Last Wednesday, the Agawam High School baseball team, sporting a 7-2 record at the time, traveled to Ludlow. The Lions were 2-6, so it looked like a game the Brownies could win. And they did, 6-4, behind the pitching of senior Jamie Scherban (6 1/3 IP, 4 hits, 4 runs, all earned, 8 K's, 4 walks, 4.42 ERA), who racked up his fourth victory of the season against no losses. Scherban had a little help from ace Jon Jacobsen (1/3 IP), who mopped up in the seventh.

He also had some help at the plate where the Brownies went 7-25 for a .280 average. Among those seven hits, three went for extra bases — doubles by Bryan Menard (1-2, 1 run scored, 1 RBI) and Dom Pisano (1-4). Mike Domaingue (1-1, 2 runs scored, 1 RBI) contributed a triple.

Agawam scored three runs in its half of the second when Domaingue walked. Jimmy Baldyga was safe on a sac bunt. Menard's double drove in Domaingue. Scherban sent a shot to short. The throw went over the first baseman's head. Jimmy and Mike came home. Those runs were critical, because Ludlow would score two in the bottom of the seventh. Before those scores the Brownies were only up 3-2.

Agawam couldn't have been prepared for what happened to them the next day on Thursday. They were up at Northampton. And like the girls a day before, they experienced a personal scoring phenomenon. But it was not in their favor. Hamp drilled them, 15-5.

Agawam used four pitchers. Jake (1 1/3 IP, 9 runs, 8 earned, 6 hits, 1 K, 2 walks) started and got lit up for his first loss of the season against three wins.

Junior right-hander Josh Maynard (2 IP, 7 runs, all earned, 5 hits, 0 K's, 4 walks) came on. The kid could do not better. Coach Boo Smith lifted him in the fourth in favor of Dan Pellegrino (1 2/3 IP, 0 runs, 3 hits, 0 K's, 1 walk). He went to the end of the fifth. Lefty Jim Baldyga (1 IP, 0 runs, 2 hits, 1 K) came in to finish up. Both of those kids pitched well.

Agawam, down 11-0, scored its first run in the fourth on a Baldyga (1-4, 2 runs scored, 1 RBI) triple. A Bryan Menard (2-3, 1 run scored) double and a Todd Godfrey (1-1, 1 RBI) single to drive in Menard got them one more in the sixth.

They scored three in the seventh. Todd Jorgensen (2-2, 1 run scored) legged out an infield hit. Dan Pellegrino (0-1, 1 run scored) walked. Todd came home on a booted ball of the bat of Baldyga. Then Menard came up and doubled in Pellegrino and Baldyga.

Agawam might have suffered a blow bigger than the one to its pride in the game. Catcher Chris Chechile injured the thumb on his throwing hand and had to leave in the second inning. The senior co-captain is an integral part of the team. They cannot afford to lose him as they head into the league part of their season.

Agawam's record slipped to 8-3 after that debacle.

Joel Dearing Of Feeding Hills Honored By Springfield College

Springfield College Men's Volleyball Coach Joel Dearing of Feeding Hills was named the EIVA Division III "Coach-of-the-Year" after leading the Pride to a 22-7 record.

Springfield College also captured the EIVA Division III Tournament title with a 3-0 victory over host Juniata, PA. Dearing, a 1979 Springfield graduate, announced his retirement as men's coach, but will remain as the head women's volleyball coach and assistant professor of physical education.

Dearing compiled a 130-52 record (71.4 percent in seven years as men's coach).

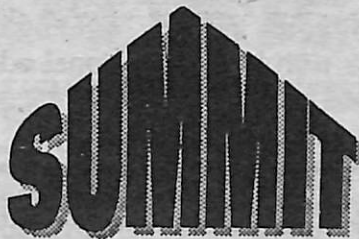
Parks Dept. Slates Info Meeting On Improvement Grant

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department will hold an informational meeting on the application for the Urban Self-Help Grant through the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs on Wednesday, May 15, 1996 at 4:30 p.m. in the Town Clerk's Conference Room.

The Recreation Department is seeking the grant to renovate the parking lot and tennis courts at Perry Lane Park and to construct a new playscape at the park.

Everyone interested in this process is invited to attend.

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COACH JOE SAIMERI with his four gymnasts who attended the USA Regional Championships - Kadee Bramley, Brynne Kennedy, Amy Reynolds, and Jaime Scott Smith. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Daggett Gymnasts To Compete At Junior Olympic Nationals

Gymnasts from the Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics boys' team posted several victories at the 1996 Region VI (New England) Championships held at UMass on April 20th.

The top six gymnasts in Class I, II, and III in the Regional Competition will now compete in the Junior Olympic National Championships to be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, May 10-12, 1996.

Class I (16-18) gymnast Andrew Leis of Suffield, CT, placed third in the all-around with a first-place finish on high bar and a third-place finish on pommel horse.

In Class II (14-15), John Szymczyk of Feeding Hills was the all-around champion placing first on floor exercise, pommel horse, rings, and vault; and third on parallel bars and high bar.

Darren Morace of Westfield finished third all-around placing second on floor exercise, pommel horse, and high bar; third on rings; and fourth on parallel bars and vault.

Ali Eslami of Manchester, CT, took sixth place all-around honors placing third on vault and fourth on pommel horse and rings.

Class III (12-13) gymnast Patrick McFarlin of Longmeadow took first-place all-around honors placing second on vault and high bar; third on floor; fourth on pommel horse and rings; and fifth on parallel bars.

Jamey Houle of Longmeadow placed second all-around placing first on pommel horse and high bar; second on parallel bars; and third on rings.

In Class III (14-15), Mathieu Perry of Feeding Hills placed first in the all-around with a first-place finish on rings and parallel bars; a second on high bar; and third on pommel horse and floor.

In Class IV (12-13), Steven Gaudette of West Springfield placed first all-around taking first on pommel horse, rings, and parallel bars; second on floor exercise; and third on high bar.

The gymnasts are coached by Igor Vernyi (former coach of World and Olympic champions from the Soviet Union) and Tim Daggett (former Olympic gold medalist).



TIM DAGGETT Gold Medal Gymnastics Coach Igor Vernyi with his five gymnasts who competed in the regional New England Meet. From left - Patrick McFarlin, Jamey Houle, Andrew Leis, Darren Morace, and John Szymczyk. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Tim Daggett's Girls Show Their Stuff At USA Gymnastics Regional Championships

The Level 9 USA Gymnastics Regional Championships for Region VI took place on Saturday and Sunday, April 20th and 21st, at Ward Melville High School in Sekauket, New York. Region VI consists of the New England states and New York.

Four members of the Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics girls' team qualified for this meet at the recent State Championships.

The individual qualifiers competed on Saturday, April 20th.

Kadee Bramley, 12, of South Windsor, CT, was the All-Around Regional Champion in the 12-13 age group with a score of 35.675. Kadee won floor with a 9.175, placed third on bars (8.7), fourth on vault (8.85), and sixth on beam with a score of 8.95.

Amy Reynolds, 12, of West Springfield placed second on bars with an 8.95 and was fourth on vault (8.85). Amy just missed placing in the top 10 in the All-Around with a score of 34.55.

Jaime Scott-Smith, 11, of Southwick was third in the All-Around in the 8-11 age group with a score of 34.55. Jaime won bars with a score of 8.65. She was third on vault (8.75), fourth on floor

(8.625), and fifth on beam (8.525).

The team competition was held on Sunday, April 21st. Brynne Kennedy, 12, of Pittsfield was a member of the Massachusetts team.

Brynne earned the right to represent Massachusetts USA Gymnastics by finishing first in the All-Around in the combined age groups in the Massachusetts USA Gymnastics State Championships for Level 9.

The gymnasts with the top seven All-Around scores qualified to be on the team. Massachusetts finished second with a score of 179.35. New York won the team competition with a score of 180.1.

Team members were also competing for individual awards. Brynne was sixth in the All-Around in the 12-13 age group with a score of 35.675. She was the champion on floor with a score of 9.35, second on beam (9.225), ninth on bars (8.35), and 10th on vault with a score of 8.75.

The girls were coached at the meet by Joe Saimeri (co-owner and girls' head coach of Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics in Agawam) and Marina Vernaya.

Daggett Boys Compete In Region 6 Junior Olympics Regional Championship

The Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics Boys' Team, Class VI, coached by Kurt Sulkala, competed recently in the 1996 Region 6 Junior Olympic Regional Championships, held at the UMass Boyden Gym.

In the 7-9 age group, Mark Parzych was first in rings (5.9), parallel bars (5.5), and all-around (32.1). Mark's brother, Darren, was also a victor, winning second place on rings (5.85), second on parallel bars (5.4), fourth on high bar (5.4), fourth place on rings (5.6), and all-around sixth place (30.75).

Corey Arbelaes as well was a three-time winner with a seventh place on rings (5.4), 11th place on floor (5.0), and 12th place on parallel bars.

Alex Smith and Drew Ignoto competed in the 10-11 age group. Alex scored 5.0 or better in four of his five events, winning ninth place on floor (5.1) and 12th place on parallel bars (5.0), ending with an all-around of 29.5. Drew earned consistent scores in all five events: 4.5 (floor), 4.7 (pommel-horse), 4.8 (rings), 4.9 (parallel bars), and 4.7 (rings), ending with a 28.3 all-around.

All of these boys are to be congratulated, as they were among the best of the numerous competitors in this field, which included only the best gymnasts in the region. They are up-and-coming athletes in the Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics Teams and show great promise for the future.

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Brownie Girls Escape Tough Softball Contest With West Springfield

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam girls' softball Coach Debbie Lickley had this assessment of her team's 3-1 win on Tuesday over arch-rival West Springfield: "We aren't exactly tearing the cover off the ball."

With that fact in mind, the Brownies decided to go back to their bunting game for this contest.

The score was 0-0 going into the fourth inning when the Brownie bunters hit paydirt. Courtne Hyland took a lead-off walk. A Jen O'Neil double sent Hyland to third.

Then Amber Conte laid down a textbook sacrifice bunt (one of two she would have in the game), sending "Court" home.

The score stood at 1-0. But the Brownies weren't done. They needed a timely hit and second baseman Becky Wing delivered it, tripling to left. O'Neil came home with Agawam's second run.

"Becky has had some trouble at the plate recently," Coach Lickley admitted. "She was dropping her hands before she took a swing at the ball. We worked on the problem in practice on Monday. It paid off."

They rung up one more run in the fifth. Kristen Patterson singled, stole second on a fake bunt by Erica Pratt, and then stole third. There were runners on second and third when Hyland stepped in. She grounded out. Patterson came home on the play.

"I told them, whoever gets on the board first in the game would win it," Lickley said with a smile.

Even though Agawam could only manage five hits, it was enough for Brownie ace Laura Rapa (7 IP, 2 hits, 1 run (unearned), 8 K's, 2 walks). She had a no-hitter going into the seventh inning before the Terriers touched her up with two hits and that unearned run. Rapa's record is now 8-1.

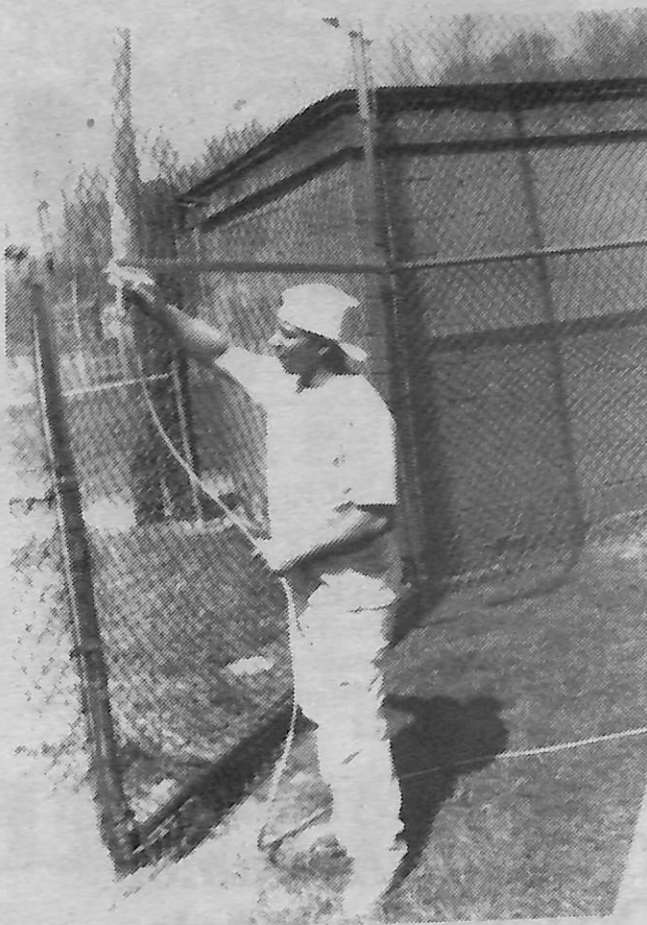
Agawam is 11-2 overall. This was their first game in the Valley League this season, where they are the defending champs.

Agawam Little League STANDINGS (As Of May 4, 1996)

MAJOR LEAGUE	W	L
Valenti's Restaurant Red Sox	1	0
Schlafer Chiropractic Indians	1	0
Bridgeport National Royals	1	0
Agawam DARE Orioles	1	0
Hood's Giants	1	0
Ag. Public Market Yankees	0	0
Hastie Fence Athletics	0	0
Rollaway Mets	0	1
Soda City Dodgers	0	1
Scott's Citgo Braves	0	3

MINOR LEAGUE	W	L
Lion's Club Orioles	2	0
Ayre Real Estate Giants	1	0
Parrotta's Auto Sales Athletics	1	1
Teddy Bear Pools Mets	0	0
Dreyer Plumbing & Heating	0	0
Polish Club Royals	0	0
Luigi's Pizza And Pasta Braves	0	0
VFW Post 1632 Red Sox	0	1
Bolduc Screen Printing Yankees	0	1
Longhi's Golf Center Indians	0	1

Field Spruce-Up



STEVE PALAZZI paints a backstop at the Agawam Little League field recently to get ready for the spring season which is now underway. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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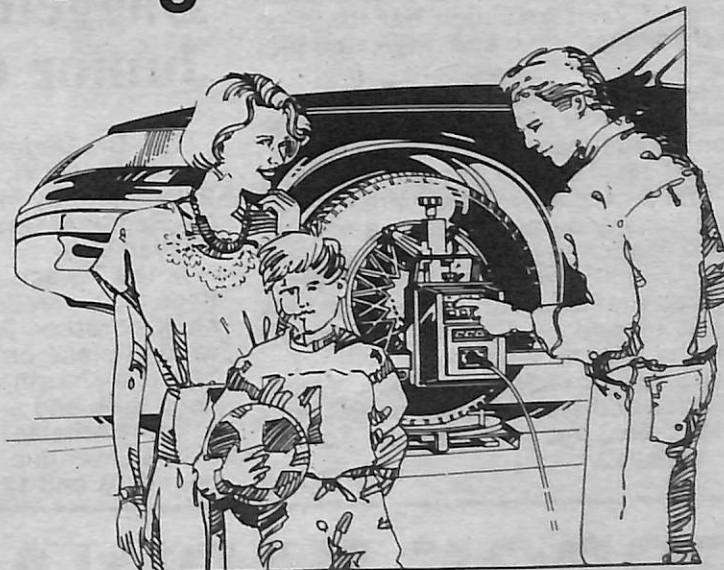
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Agawam Council On Aging Slates First Annual Golf Tourney

The Agawam Council on Aging will be holding its first Annual Golf Tournament on Tuesday, June 18, 1996 at the Agawam Country Club. Proceeds from the event will go towards purchasing a new 10-passenger van for the Center's transportation program.

"We need to replace our 10-passenger van, which has 140,000 miles on it. As local businesses have profited from many of the trips provided, we are looking to them to be extremely supportive," said Charles Heyl, chairman of the Golf Tournament Committee.

Tees and greens signs are \$25. A foursome, including cart and a light lunch, is \$100.

"The rides we provide are crucial medical trips, food shopping, and therapies. These are just a few of the destinations," said Heyl.

Persons and businesses wishing to participate in the event should call Richard Mundo, Executive Director of the Council on Aging at 786-0400, ext. 242.

"Kamp For Kids" Charity Golf Celebrates 20 Years

For the 20th year, it's time to "Tee It Up For KIDS!"

The 20th Annual "Kamp For Kids" Open Golf Tournament will be played on **Wednesday, May 29th**, at Oak Ridge Golf Club in Feeding Hills. In celebration of 20 years, golfers and friends of kids through Western Massachusetts will be enjoying a day of fun and helping to create a future of hope for families and kids who have disabilities.

Entry fee for the tournament is only \$75, and it includes lunch (catered by Frigo's), greens fees, golf cart, and the banquet at Oak Ridge.

There are many opportunities to win prizes and awards: hole-in-one contests, door prizes, and a Charity Raffle which offers (among other prizes) round-trip air fare for two anywhere in the continental United States, compliments of AMERICAN AIRLINES, the official airline of the "Kamp For Kids" Golf Tournament.

For reservations and information, call 562-5678.

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ADVERTISER NEWS

Sacred Heart AA Opens Spring Season



THERE WAS NOTHING BUT SMILES at Opening Day ceremonies of the 1996 Baseball/Softball season at Sacred Heart Church on April 28th. From left - Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, Sister Eileen Sullivan, Reverend Kenneth Tatro, and overall coordinator Brian Rheault. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



LED BY MUSIC DIRECTOR TAMMY WATSON, members of the Agawam High School Jazz Band performed at Opening Day ceremonies for the Sacred Heart Athletic Association's Baseball/Softball Season on April 28th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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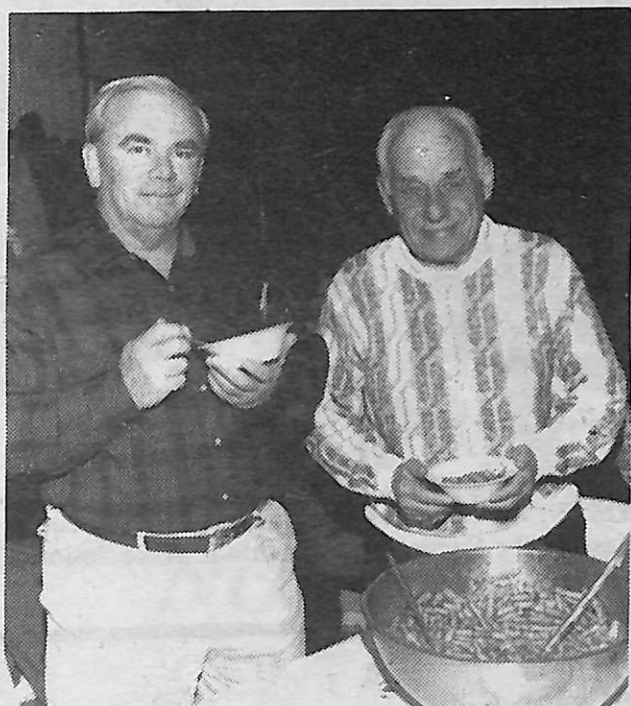
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Annual Rite Of Spring At Mawaga Club



THE AGAWAM MAWAGA SPORTING CLUB held its Annual Spring Dinner last month. The club is celebrating its 51st year. From left - Micahel DeCaro, Mike Roberts, Steve Roberts; kitchen helpers included club members Jim Gamelli, Roger LeClair, Wayne Harrington, and Frank T. Parrow. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



TOM VINING and AL FORTINI were two of the Mawaga Sporting Club members who attended the Annual Club Dinner last month. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Do You Own An AHS Track Record? Booster Club Seeking Information

There are many facets to the games we play, ranging from the athletes themselves to the fans in the stands. Perhaps one of the most important aspects are the statistics we keep - those concrete numbers that boil everything down. They tell us what an athlete did, how they did it, and how well they did while doing it.

Statistics are kept on every level, whether it be high school, college, semi-pro, or pro. They chronicle excellence down through the long corridors of competition.

Unfortunately, in high school, through the fault of no one in particular, they are rarely kept up-to-date or kept at all. That goes for Agawam High School, which has had a rich and varied tradition of athletic excellence for as long as it has had athletics as part of its curriculum.

"Stats" are scarce for any sport ever played at the High School.

That's why we are turning to the people of Agawam. In this case, it would be for boys' and girls' track and field. If anyone out there has any records or knows of anyone who does, we would appreciate your help. We need to be made aware of times, events, and who was the best at these events for any many years as possible.

We would like to start keeping records and keep them in one place so people can have an opportunity to look back and see how they, or their sons and daughters, or someday, how their sons and daughters, matched up on competition over the years.

You will also be helping the Agawam track boosters club in a project to have a plaque made to honor annually the best in AHS track and field.

So if you have any information that would help in any way on Agawam track statistics over the years, please call Bob Defilip at 786-7107.

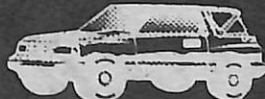
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Rain Again Creates Tough Going At Riverside Speedway

In an effort to always try to provide quality NASCAR auto racing, the management of Riverside Park Speedway opened its "May Day Fantastic" event on Saturday, May 4th, in the pouring rain. At 3:30 p.m., the Riverside Speedway competitors were asked to vote concerning making an honest attempt at running; the decision was 100 percent in favor of attempting to dry the track if the rain stopped by 4:00 p.m.

The rain did, and Riverside's Modified four-type competitors, Pro Stock, Late Model, and Strictly Stock drivers dried the quarter-mile facility. All 142 cars did an excellent job of assisting.

Three Strictly Stock heats were run, as well as three Late Model heats. Just as the Pro Stocks were about to qualify, the rains came back with a heavy drizzle, followed by heavy rains.

And even though there were enough races run not to call for "rain checks," Riverside's Ben Dodge, Jr. did offer rain checks to all of the race fans and competitors.

The end result—a complete change in format for this Saturday's event.

This Saturday, May 11th, the 100-lap Modified four-type special will resume. It will have completely new qualifying heat races for the Modified four cars with a 100-lap feature.

Plus, the Pro Stock heats will be continued and a consi will be run, as well as a 50-lap Pro Stock feature. There will also be a consolation event for the Late Models, and two consolation events for the Strictly Stocks.

What's more, the Late Models will run a 25-lap feature, plus there will be a Strictly Stock feature of 20 laps.

Expected drivers in attendance in the Modified four division include Reggie Ruggiero, Ed Flemke, Charlie Pasteryak, Bert Marvin, Chris Kopec, Dan Avery, Richie Gallup, and a strong car count of regulars.

The Pro Stocks are also expected to have a strong car count with such drivers as point leader Eddy Carroll, Tom Carey, Jr., Tom Fearn, John Lobo, Barry Gray, Rich Vasseur, Doug Dell, Scott Bouley, and Ed Carroll.

Meanwhile, the Late Models and Strictly Stocks will also be jammed in the pit area.

In total, the Saturday, May 11th event will be 16-plus events with the 100-lap Modified feature.

The pit area opens at 10:00 a.m., the South Gate opens at 4:00 p.m., and the action is scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. Admission is priced at \$14.99 for adults, and \$2.99 for kids 11 years of age and under. For NASCAR members, the pit fee is just \$18.

"Rain checks" (as a courtesy of the speedway management) will be honored.

Race fans are invited to call the Riverside information hotline — 1-800-370-7488 — to get the latest information on all speedway events.



Golf Tip Of The Week...

Compiled by
Jim Modzelesky,
PGA
Oak Ridge Golf Club,
Feeding Hills, MA

The Correct Grip Size

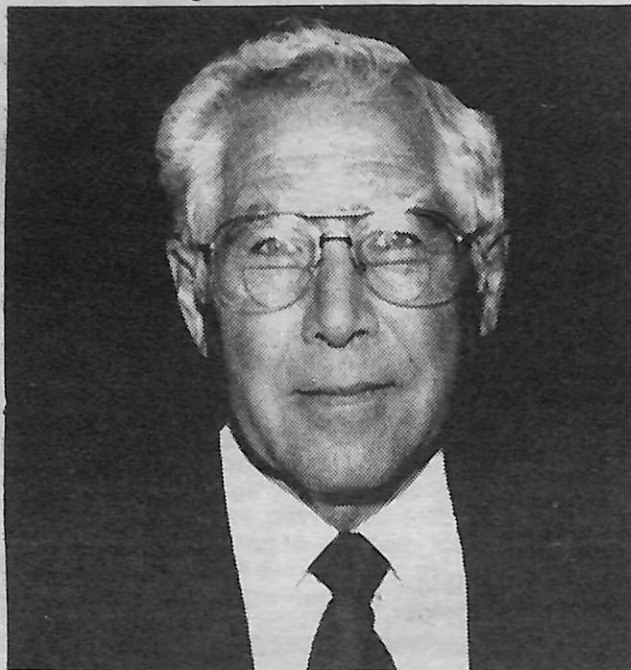
There is no single, standard, correct grip size for everyone. It all comes down to feel: some people will prefer a grip either slightly thicker or slightly thinner — and note my emphasis on *slightly* — than the standard grip size most manufacturers put on their sets.

With the club gripped in your left hand, if your fingertips just touch the pad of the thumb, then the grip is a pretty good fit for you. However, since altering grips is an easy and inexpensive job that pros can do while you wait, it is worth experimenting.

For most golfers, what feels best will also work best.

Baseball Tryouts For Legion Team Set For Sunday, May 12th

American Legion baseball tryouts for ages 15 through 18 will be held Sunday, May 12th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Shea's Field (rain date: Sunday, May 19th).



RUDY ALTABELLI

Altobelli Ranked 1st In Senior Tennis

Rudy Altobelli of Agawam this week has been ranked as the number one player in New England Senior Tennis for 1996.

Last year Altobelli was ranked number two in this division. His two biggest wins came at a tournament in Williamstown, Mass. when he defeated the number one ranked seniors player in New England, 6-1, 6-4 and then at a West Hartford tournament when he defeated the number one ranked seniors player in the USA, 6-3, 6-0.

Altobelli has been a top regional amateur player for many years and has won many local singles and doubles trophies.

He will be teaching adult tennis for the Agawam Parks and Rec. Department beginning on Monday, May 13th and then on Sunday, May 19th.

Anyone wishing to take lessons are asked to call the Agawam Parks Dept. at 786-0400, extension 456.



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Agawam
(Twin Silos)

Liz Polverari

789-3143

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Chalmers Pursuing Late Model Title At Riverside Speedway

Some things just never change, and sometimes that's good. Still, change is important, and some would consider it a great learning experience.

Ted Chalmers knows all about that from both sides. Chalmers is a 30-year veteran of Riverside Park Speedway. In those years, he has done and seen just about everything.

Yet, Chalmers has a love for the sport; a love that is fueled every Saturday night at Riverside Park Speedway. And he puts on that black driving suit to go racing at his favorite quarter-mile ... the track that he calls Riverside!

Ted Chalmers has raced in almost every division that Riverside has had; from the days of United to the NASCAR success of today. He started his racing career in the old jalopy division and then moved to conquer the hearts of the figure eight division.

In figure eights, Chalmers was the fans' favorite. He dressed all in black, and a black scarf covered his face. The fans often called him the "outlaw," but the reason for the mask was simple—the old infield was a dust pit.

After win after win, Chalmers tried several other divisions for a while; a sportsman Modified, even a Modified, and then a shot at the Pro Stock class. Yet, money was tough, so the division he liked the most was the Late Models.

And, even though Chalmers is a household name at Riverside, he has raced his share of tracks (like Stafford, Thompson, Monadnock, Waterford, Star, Lee, and more). The tall, middle-aged man who shows the markings of hard work, just simply loves racing...

The record books at Riverside from 1995 show that Ted Chalmers and his famed red and black number 28 had one of their best seasons ever at the park; Chalmers finished 11th in the point standings for the Late Models, receiving \$386 in point money.

The 1995 season brought Chalmers one win, four seconds, and nine additional top finishes in 19 starts. However, perhaps his biggest and proudest accomplishment came last November at the Winston Awards Banquet, where Chalmers received the "Gene Murphy Memorial Award" for outstanding dedication to Riverside Speedway in 1995. A crowd of 700-plus gave him a standing ovation for this long-overdue special award.

For 1996, Chalmers is going after the Late Model crown at Riverside Park Speedway. It is something that he has spent 30 years chasing, and this alone makes him a "real" champion (even without the title).

Still, the competition at Riverside is tough ... and with a \$12,000-plus point fund for Riverside's Late Models, it's not going to be easy. Drivers like Gee Perry, Wayne Coury, Joe Czarnecki, and Glenn Griswold are just a few of the top competitors that Chalmers will have to beat.

Late Model rules are available with free color schedules, posters, and brochures. Write Riverside Park Speedway, Box 307, Agawam, MA 01001 (Attn.: Mary).

Best local news...

Riverside Speedway's POINT STANDINGS

MODIFIEDS

Chris Kopec
Reggie Ruggiero
Dave Berube
Richard Savary
Tom Jensen
Eddy Splers
Tony Papale
Ted Riggott
Fran Principi
Marty Leary
Jim Houghton
Richie Gallup
Dan Avery
Dan Grasso
Renee Dupuis
Steve Park
Eric LeClair
Brian Schofield
Bruce Batchelder
Dave Gallo

194
188
156
150
130
128
126
122
114
106
104
102
92
76
76
70
68
68
66
58

LATE MODELS

Glenn Griswold
Todd Owens
Ted Chalmers
Gee Perry
Chris Wenzel
Wayne Coury
Rob Valerio
Bobby Ermark
Joe Czarnecki
Skip Breunig
Chuck Docherty
E.J. Legacy
Joe Rzeszutek
Brian Merchant
Brian Locke
P.J. Pelc
Roy Houle
Emile Tarca
Johnny Severns
Paul Barnard

178
172
170
168
160
156
154
134
120
116
110
96
96
80
76
72
68
62
54
54

PRO STOCKS

Eddy Carroll
Jeff Connors
John Lobo
Jeff Horn
Tom Fearn
Tom Carey
Scott Bouley
Ed Carroll
Rich Vasseur
Doug D'Alessandro
Barry Gray
Jim Bainfield
Bennett Fuller
Bill Lauridsen
Les Hinkley
Blaine Belz
Craig St. Germain
Mike Duquette
Bill Bolton
Matt Bushior

186
174
162
152
148
148
142
138
136
122
122
122
114
112
84
64
64
62
56
50

STRICTLY STOCKS

Patrick Townsend
Scott Neleber
Herb Carlon
Mike Salmond
James Sommer
Todd Malvezzi
Dennis Charette
Dennis Brilla
Kris Valerio
Ed Charette
Dennis Sporbett
Keith Miller
Glen Reilly
Joe Kokoszka
Tony Kelly
Al Leone
Derek McClellan
Jonathan Yourga
Rosi Hall
Jon Waterhouse

222
202
182
180
166
160
156
152
152
144
136
132
132
120
118
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86
84
76
76

Jason Miller Looking To Make Mark In Riverside's Pro Stocks Division

Ray Miller was the pride of Granby, Connecticut in the 1970's and 1980's. The Modified legend of Riverside was the man to beat in the short-track circuit. His son, Jason, watched from the stands and dreamed of filling his dad's racing shoes.

Now, Granby, Connecticut has another rising star on its hands ... Jason Miller—a tall, thin kid who grew up at Riverside.

At the age of 23, Miller surely feels and knows the pressure of his family racing success. A mechanic by trade at International Auto Body, he eats, sleeps, and dreams racing. He is also a college graduate with three varsity letters in sports.

As race driver, Miller started in the Strictly Stocks and won "Rookie of the Year" honors in 1993. Last year, he made the difficult move up to the Pro Stocks by purchasing the former Dave Berube Pro Stock Thunderbird.

In 14 starts, he had only one top 10 finish, but nonetheless, he showed great improvement every Saturday night at Riverside.

During the off-season, Miller (with the help of

his father, Ray) hired Ed Flemke, Jr. of Raceworks Chassis to assist in building a state-of-the-art Monte Carlo. The "mean, black machine" is sponsored by Brideside, Inc., Ardery Chevrolet, and Spring Clean.

As for racing goals, it's what you would expect—a victory at the quarter-mile in the Pro Stocks. And so far, Jason has showed great potential with his new Riverside Pro Stock.

Yet, Riverside's Pro Stock class is a tough one with a yearly point fund of \$67,000-plus that attracts a 35-car field on a weekly basis. Last year, 49 different Pro Stocks visited Riverside Speedway and shared point earnings that equalled \$17,967.23.

Thus far this season, the class has drawn over 30 cars each week. And the list of new talent is very strong, with drivers like Jeff Connors, Jeff Horn, Jim Bainfield, Rich Vasseur, Les Hinkley, and Bill Bolton.

Plus, the veteran drivers are also very strong, and they include Ed and Eddy Carroll, Scott Bouley, John Lobo, Barry Gray, Doug D'Alessandro, Bill Lauridsen, and Gary Fiorimonti.

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U.S. Health Care
Mass. Health
HMO Blue
Aetna



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Two Segments On Riverside Racing On TV-22

Through the efforts of Start/Finish Communications, WWLP-TV22—the leading news and information center for Western Massachusetts—will be presenting weekly auto racing television coverage.

The station's news department will dedicate and produce a motorsports "guest appearance/live interview" segment on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. What's more, WWLP will provide exclusive Riverside Speedway "race results" footage every Saturday evening on its 11:00 p.m. news broadcast.

As if this weren't enough, the station will feature exclusive footage of the NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour at the next available news broadcast (as supplied by Start/Finish Communications).

Bruce Adams, President of Ben Dodge's Start/Finish Communications, is the only approved supplier of Modified Tour footage to ESPN, TNN, and national motorsports accounts.

Adams and Mike Zukowsky have supplied the

television coverage for over 10 years, and the award-winning company produced 300 network television auto racing programs on the New England Sports Network in the 1990's.

They have also produced the syndicated radio show of the same name, "Raceweek," produced by Bruce Adams and hosted by Ben Dodge, Jr.

Adams has an outstanding background in the broadcast business with a strong electronic media background. This is combined with his long-time association with TV22's Mark Wiernasz.

Wiernasz, a former member of Riverside Speedway's announcing team, has received several awards for his knowledge and background in racing. Through the efforts of these men, the two major segments have developed into a weekly segment on auto racing in Western Massachusetts.

The Thursday evening (5:00 p.m.) news segment will feature a three-minute, live on-camera, in-studio driver interview with actual race footage

rolled into the interview by television's leading sports authorities. This segment will involve information around Riverside Speedway and the NASCAR Winston Racing Series.

On Saturday evening during the 11:00 p.m. news, Riverside Speedway will offer the first complete look of that evening's racing with actual race footage and results with points. This will be provided just minutes after the checker drops at Riverside Speedway every Saturday night.

In addition to all of this, Start/Finish Communications will provide exclusive race footage of the NASCAR Modified Tour at the next available new broadcast on the current events' run.

These are just three examples of the efforts of Bruce Adams and Ben Dodge's Start/Finish Communications, which (for 15 years) has been providing auto racing entertainment value in television and radio in the Northeast and across the country.

Marathon Madness At Riverside Seeks Brave Men & Women

Wanted—200 brave men and women to prepare their cars for the first "Marathon Madness" Enduro of 1996 on Sunday, May 26th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. (rain or shine!) at Riverside Park Speedway, Route 159, Agawam, MA.

It's an amateur event with a new format like no other in auto racing. Anyone over 16 years of age with a driver's license can enter and possibly win the lion's share of \$1,000 in cash.

This is the first of many events of this type. Following the May 26th event, future programs of this nature will take place on June 9th, June 23rd, July 7th, July 21st, August 4th, August 18th, and September 1st.

All of these events will have the same combination format of a full-size Enduro, a four-cylinder Enduro, a Dem-Duro, and a Demolition Derby.

It's so easy ... the full-size Enduro runs heats on the figure 8 course, and everyone qualifies and is in the main event. The feature can be 50- to 100-laps on the oval (paying \$500 in purse).

The four-cylinder Enduro is run only on the oval. Depending on the car count, the feature will be run for 50 to 75 laps and pay a purse of \$250.

All Enduro cars must have a roll-bar (no wagons in Enduros). The Dem-Duro runs heat races on the oval, and the main event is a Demolition Derby with a \$500 purse (the last car running wins it all).

Compact four-cylinder demos are allowed when enough cars enter. No roll-bars are required, but they are recommended in all Dem-Duros.

"Marathon Madness" events also feature real professional racing like the Pro 4 Modifieds, Super Stocks, Mini Stocks, Legends, half-ton truck races, and the Strictly Stocks. The Enduro format is run rain or shine.

Here are the basic rules for the Enduro/Dem-Duro that will take place on Sunday, May 26th:

Remove all lights, chrome, and rear and side glass. Bolt-weld or secure all doors, and remove the upholstery and headliner.

You must have a lap-type seatbelt and shoulder harness. Enduros require a loop-type roll-bar and helmet. Dem-Duros are not required to have a roll-bar but are recommended to. Everyone is welcome to race for the glory, trophy, and cash.

You must enter in advance, but there is no fancy entry form. Just send a check for \$20 to: Riverside Park Speedway (End-Dem Entry), Attn.: Mary, P.O. Box 307, Agawam, MA 01001.

Along with this check, you must list the race date; Enduro or Dem-Duro; your complete mailing address and zip code, phone number, and social security number. You will also be able to pick the number for your car, and duplicate numbers will be changed on the day of the race.

When you mail your check, be sure that all of this aforementioned information is sent along with it because you will not receive a confirmation (your cancelled check will be your only notice of confirmation). Without any of this important information, you will not be able to race.

The late-entry fee on race day is \$25, so write and send your check as soon as possible and save money.

On race day, the pits open at 10:00 a.m. Competitors must be at the speedway early (before 2:00 p.m.) and have their car signed-in and thoroughly inspected.

No late arrivals, no exceptions. Do not call the speedway with technical questions; just bring your car to Riverside on race day and make sure it's completed!

The pit fee is \$18, and you must be 16 years of age or older. Admission to watch is just \$11.99 for adults, and \$2.99 for kids 11 years-old and under.

The action will start at 6:00 p.m. Since this event will run rain or shine, there will be no refunds.

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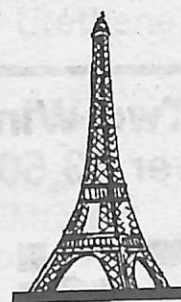


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MEMBER F.D.I.C.





Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Small Ponds—Big Fish

Fishing Smaller Waters (Part Two)

In part two of this series, we will cover some of the finer points of successfully fishing some of the smaller ponds and private lakes that we referred to in the first installment.

The principal species sought after by the majority of "farm pond" anglers, is the largemouth bass. Although some smaller ponds have been managed for trout, the majority of these smaller waters are warm-water fisheries and will not support more than a token of salmonids.

Quite a few of these small ponds are man-made or "improved." This usually means that they are small-scale impoundments created by damming a creek or small stream. Try to locate old topographic maps of the area. You may hit it lucky and find a map that was printed prior to the pond's creation. Even if the pond shows on the map, you can learn a lot by studying the map.

For ponds that did not exist when the map was drawn, find the elevation of a known landmark that relates to the body of water. The next step is to determine the elevation of the pond in relation to the height above sea level.

For instance, if you determine that the water level is at the contour line that represents 160 feet above sea level, that contour represents the water level at the surface. Take a marker and trace the 160-foot contour on the map. When you are finished, you should have the outline of the pond's shoreline. More importantly, you will know what lies under the surface.

With this information, you can see where the original creek channel is located, along with any other distinguishing bottom structure, such as drop offs, old road beds, etc. Armed with as much knowledge as possible beforehand, leaves more actual time for fishing when you arrive.

On the smallest ponds, the shore-bound angler is not at a disadvantage. A good pair of waders can be an asset, however. Often smaller ponds will have to close-to-shore brush and weed-choked shorelines. These are prime ambush spots for predatory fish. The weeds not only camouflage their presence, but provide shade from bright sunlight.

Just as on the larger lakes and reservoirs, the presence of a water current can play an important role. If the pond is a result of the damming of a stream, there will be a flow of water from the far end of the pool, towards the spillway. Fish will

almost always face into the current. Remember this when casting your lure! Points of lands, boulders, wing dams, or even downed trees can create current breaks.

The existence of a current break can alter the direction of the current in the immediate vicinity. Subtle whirlpools and back currents can be caused by obstructions. Remember that the fish will face into the current, regardless of what direction it flows at that particular point.

Spinnerbaits and shallow running crankbaits can be deadly when fished parallel to brushy shorelines. This is where a good set of waders comes in handy. After carefully entering the water, taking care not to sink too deep in the muck, turn and cast parallel with the weed lines or brush piles.

This tactic serves to keep your lure in the fish zone throughout the retrieve, not just a few feet as is the case with the angler who casts towards the middle and cranks his bait straight in. There are reasons for casting towards the middle, but unless there is a drop off, a hump or some other special feature that will hold fish, it is not the most successful strategy.

Sometimes it's hard to remember that 90 percent of the fish in a given body of water, will only be found in about 10 percent of the lake's water. Find the reasons that the fish congregate in certain seasonal areas, and you will find the fish.

Float tube fishermen can have an absolute field day fishing smaller waters, especially the ones that are remote. There will not be any high-powered bass boats zooming by, and you will probably have the water to yourself. The ability to fish off-shore drop offs and deep weedlines can be a definite plus, especially as the water warms up and the bass seek the cooler depths.

The float tube fishermen or those that fish from canoes that are carried in, can also take advantage of the ability to fish what I refer to as the "cruising zone." This is the area where the fish are "cruising." These are active fish that are moving from deep-water sanctuaries towards shallow feeding areas. They may do several laps of the shoreline, checking out some of their favorite spots to pull into for a meal.

When casting to fish in this zone, I like to position the float or canoe in just slightly deeper water. I consider the water depth of between two to five feet and a distance of about 20 feet from the weeded shallows to be the "cruise zone." I advise not placing the craft in that zone for fear of spooking the fish. Move out farther and don't make sudden movements. Toss your plug to the very edge of the brush- or weed-choked shoreline. Allow the bait to remain motionless for 20 to 30 seconds.

The sudden splashdown of the lure may startle nearby fish. It may startle them, but they will inherently turn back towards the commotion out of curiosity and natural instinct. After sufficient time, twitch the lure a couple of times before

beginning an erratic retrieve. This maneuver will often simulate an injured bait fish, and promote a savage strike.

If you are wading or fishing from a float tube or other small craft, it isn't possible to bring along the tackle box with 11 trays and 300 compartments. Traveling light doesn't mean having to leave everything in the car or at home. It just means that we must give some thought to tackle selection, and deciding what lures are "must have" and which ones to leave home.

(In part three, we will conclude the series with which lures work best in each season, and why.)

FISH REPORTS

Mr. Robblets from Robblets Sporting Goods in Granby, Connecticut, reports that trout are being taken in area ponds and streams. Due to the high water generated by the rain, no reports of outstanding fish have surfaced this week, but stay tuned.

The Connecticut Fisheries people have stocked trout this week into the streams and brooks in the area, and some fine action awaits the angler who can invest some quality time. Now that the opening day hoopla is over, there is some elbow room along the banks of area streams.

Kurt, over at Saunders Marina on Lake Congamond, reports that both trout and bass action have picked up. Trout are taking trolled spoons and spinners especially in the morning hour. The "bait and wait" crowd is doing fairly well on everything from salmon eggs to night crawlers.

Lake Ontario reports continue to include stories of extra nice brown trout being taken, with occasional salmon mixed in. In the northern quadrants of the lake, walleyes are being taken by some of the charter captains who know the secrets.

Body baits, like size 9 to 11 Rapalla lures, are slowly (pronounced, *slloooooowly*) trolled off side planers, with the lures 100 to 175 feet behind the boards. Areas around Henderson Harbor are yielding some beauties.

The Hudson River in New York is already giving up some nice striped bass in the areas of Roundout Creek and Kingston. Fish in excess of 30 and 40 pounds are not an uncommon catch.

The Connecticut River, despite my earlier prediction, remains swollen and is slowly receding. I hope that the water goes down to normal before the end of shad season. Despite the lack of fish reports, due to the adverse water conditions, some shad are in the river. Heavy darts (with some extra weight) will be necessary to get them to the proper depth, especially in the strong current.

Captain Bill Brown of Billfish Charters reports that Schoolie bass are hitting in the river mouths, flounder are being taken in the more protected areas such as bays. Sea worms and clam necks have always been reliable offerings for the flats. Cod continue to be taken in a few inshore areas, but it is becoming increasingly difficult to find good concentrations of fish without venturing further off shore.

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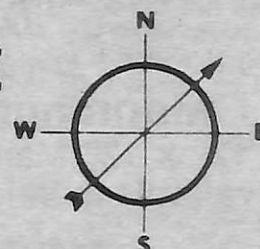
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TAG SALE: Saturday, May 11, 1996 at 9:00 a.m. Location—1334 Newgate Rd., West Suffield, CT. Assorted items.

GIANT TAG SALE: Household contents. 60 Edward St. (off Main St.), Agawam. Friday, May 10th, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; Saturday, May 11th, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Absolutely no early-birds!

TAG SALE: Fri. & Sat., May 10th & 11th, 9 AM to 4 PM (rain or shine). 42 White Birch Terrace (off Maynard Street) in Feeding Hills. Good assortment of items.

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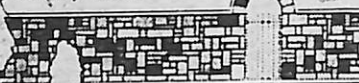


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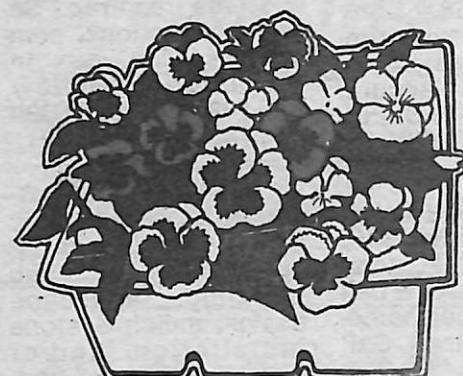
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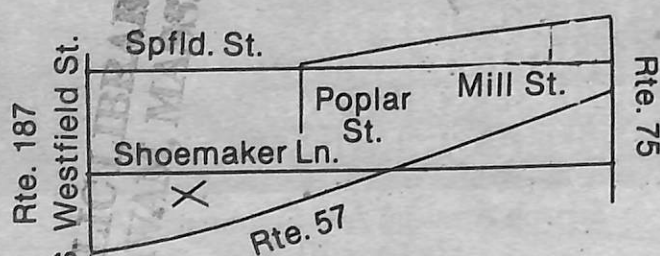
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